

# INFORMATION PACK COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2019/2020

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1 **Information Sheets and Scheme Proposals** (*Pages 3 - 150*)

Information sheets for each Scheme which was proposed during the first stages of the review.

Scheme 1 – Netherhampton  
Scheme 2/42 – Langley Burrell Without 1  
Scheme 3/43 – Langley Burrell Without 2  
Scheme 4/44 – Lacock  
Scheme 5/9 – Melksham Without 1  
Scheme 6/10 – Melksham Without 2  
Scheme 7 – North Bradley 1  
Scheme 8 – North Bradley 2  
Scheme 11 – Seend 1  
Scheme 13 – Trowbridge 1  
Scheme 14 – Trowbridge 2  
Scheme 15 – Trowbridge 3  
Scheme 16 – Trowbridge 4  
Scheme 17 – Trowbridge 5  
Scheme 24 – Melksham Merger (a, b, c and d)  
Scheme 29 – Calne Without  
Scheme 32 – Pewsey  
Scheme 34 – Wilcot 1  
Scheme 35 – Wilcot 2  
Scheme 37 – Southwick  
Scheme 40 – Derry Hill (New parish)  
Scheme 41 – Chippenham 1  
Scheme 51 – West Ashton 1  
Scheme 52 – West Ashton 2  
Scheme 74 – Salisbury  
Scheme 75 – Chippenham Without  
Scheme 76 – Woodborough  
Scheme 82 – Yatton Keynell  
Scheme 83 – Seend 2

2      **Scheme Requests and Additional Information from Requesters** (*Pages 151 - 306*)

Details of each scheme as submitted by those requesting the scheme, and subsequent information provided (where Wiltshire Council submitted scheme the Info sheets contain the relevant information).

3      **Updated Electorate Projections** (*Pages 307 - 308*)

Updated housing and electorate projections for various development sites.

4      **Stage One Responses from Individuals** (*Pages 309 - 326*)

Emailed and other responses received during stage one of the review.

5      **Parish Council Responses** (*Pages 327 - 392*)

Responses from parishes including Calne Without, Chippenham Without, Hilperton, Langley Burrell Without, Melksham, Melksham Without, North Bradley, Seend, Southwick, West Ashton and Wilcot (and Huish)

6      **Notes from Stage Two Parish Council, Unitary and Public Sessions** (*Pages 393 - 424*)

Including sessions on 4, 5, 10, 11 December 2019, 30, 22 January 2020, 5, 14 February 2020.

7      **Survey Responses** (*Pages 425 - 542*)

For each scheme, the details of representations submitted to the online survey, and physical forms input into the online survey.

522 responses. Respondents could respond to multiple schemes per response.

8      **Additional Stage Two Comments received** (*Pages 543 - 634*)

Additional representations received during stage two.

**Some documents will have been duplicated within the document pack**

## Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

### Information Sheet

### Scheme 1: Netherhampton

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of Netherhampton included within the Salisbury Harnham West Division of Wiltshire Council (The 'Netherhampton East' ward) should be transferred to the Parish of Salisbury City.

#### Reason

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and provide effective and convenient local governance.

**Electorate of Netherhampton Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 119**

**Electorate of Salisbury City Parish 1 Oct - 29855**

**Electorate of Netherhampton East Ward 2019 – Approx. 10**

**Electorate of Netherhampton East Ward 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 779**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Netherhampton Parish Council	14.09	16.43	18.78	21.13	25.83	30.52	35.22	42.26
Salisbury City Council	138.67	161.78	184.89	208.00	254.22	300.44	346.67	416.00

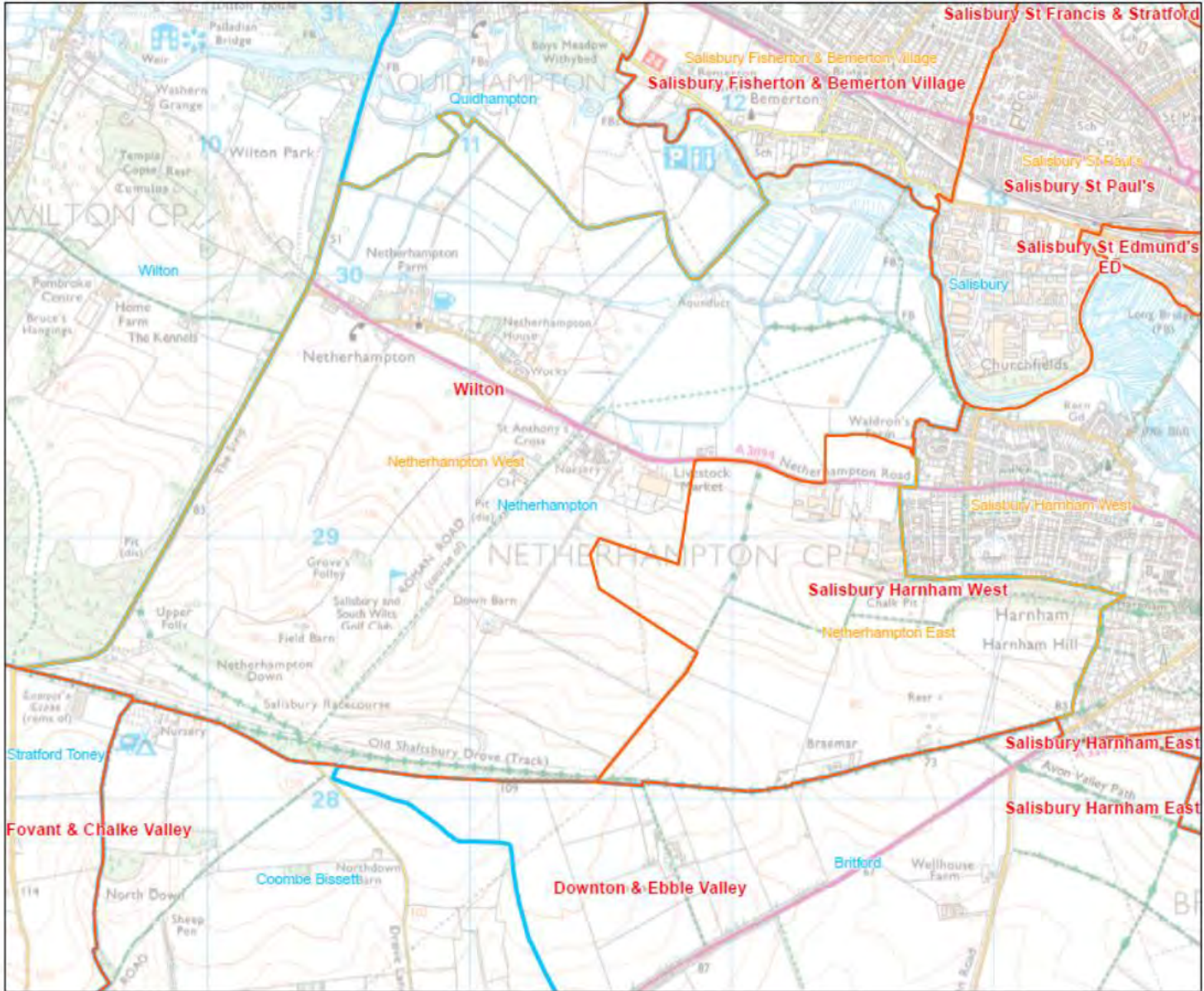
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

Map of Netherhampton Parish (East and West wards) (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Netherhampton

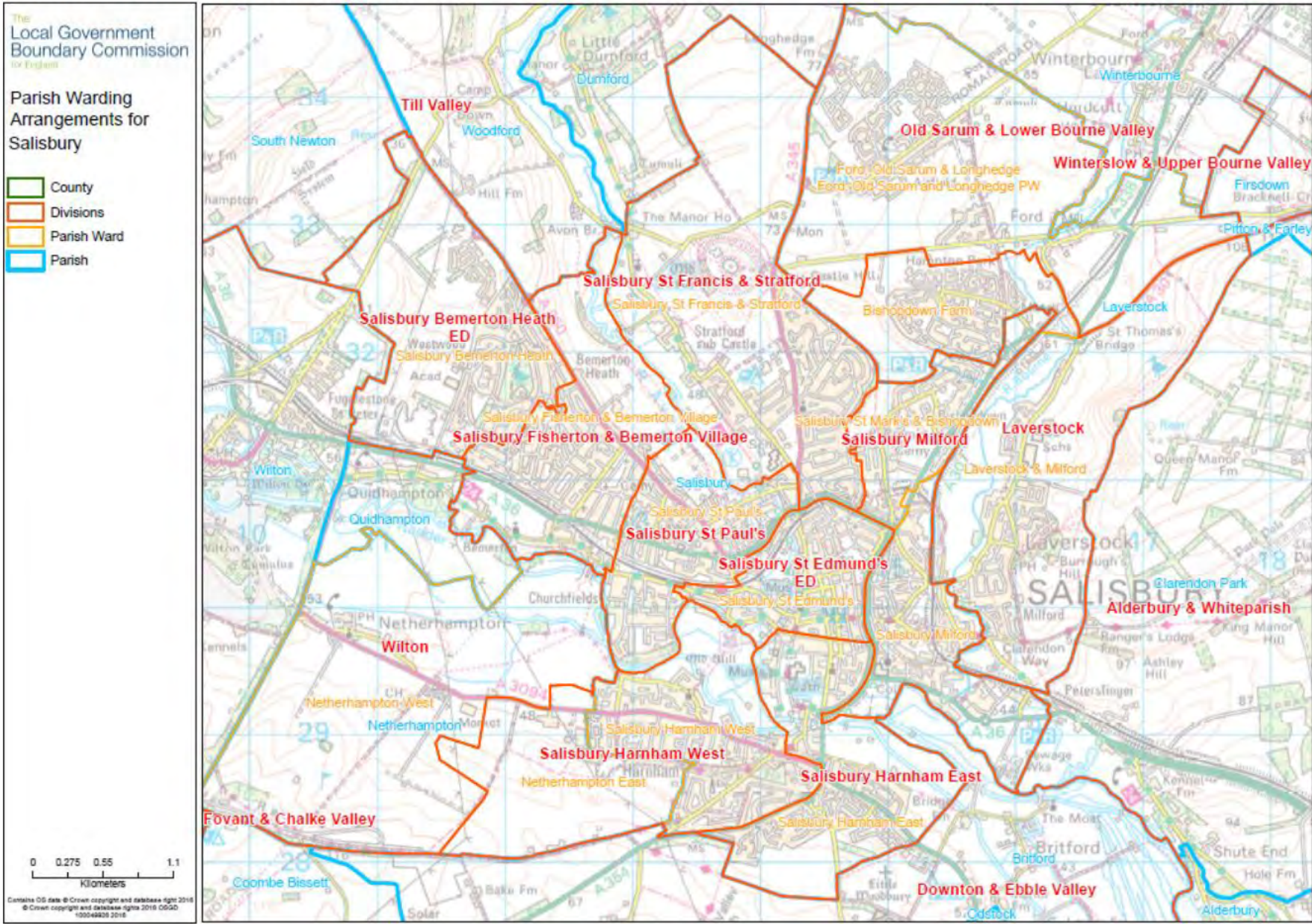
- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish



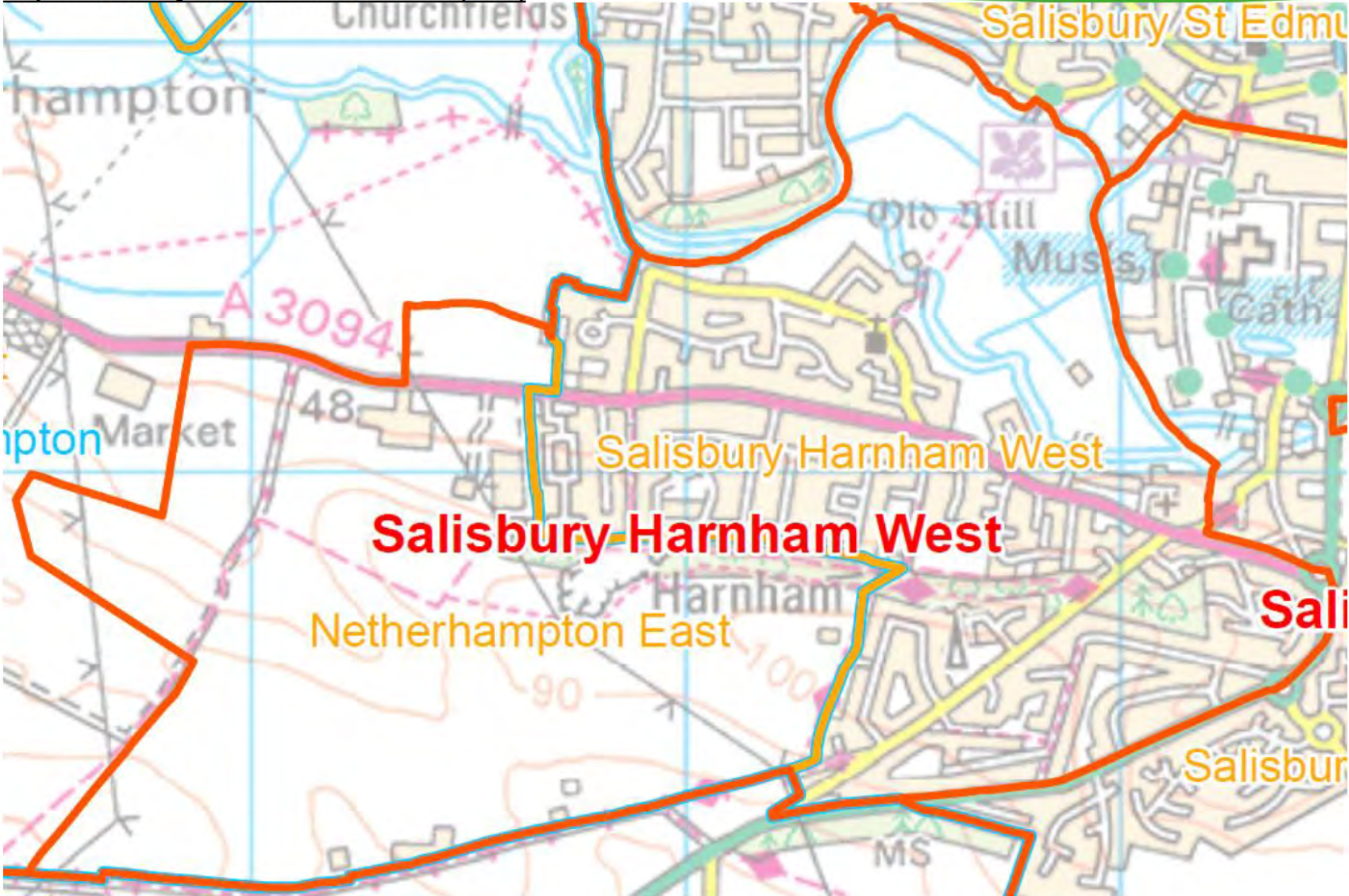
0 0.125 0.25 0.5 Kilometers

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## Map of Salisbury City Parish (2021)

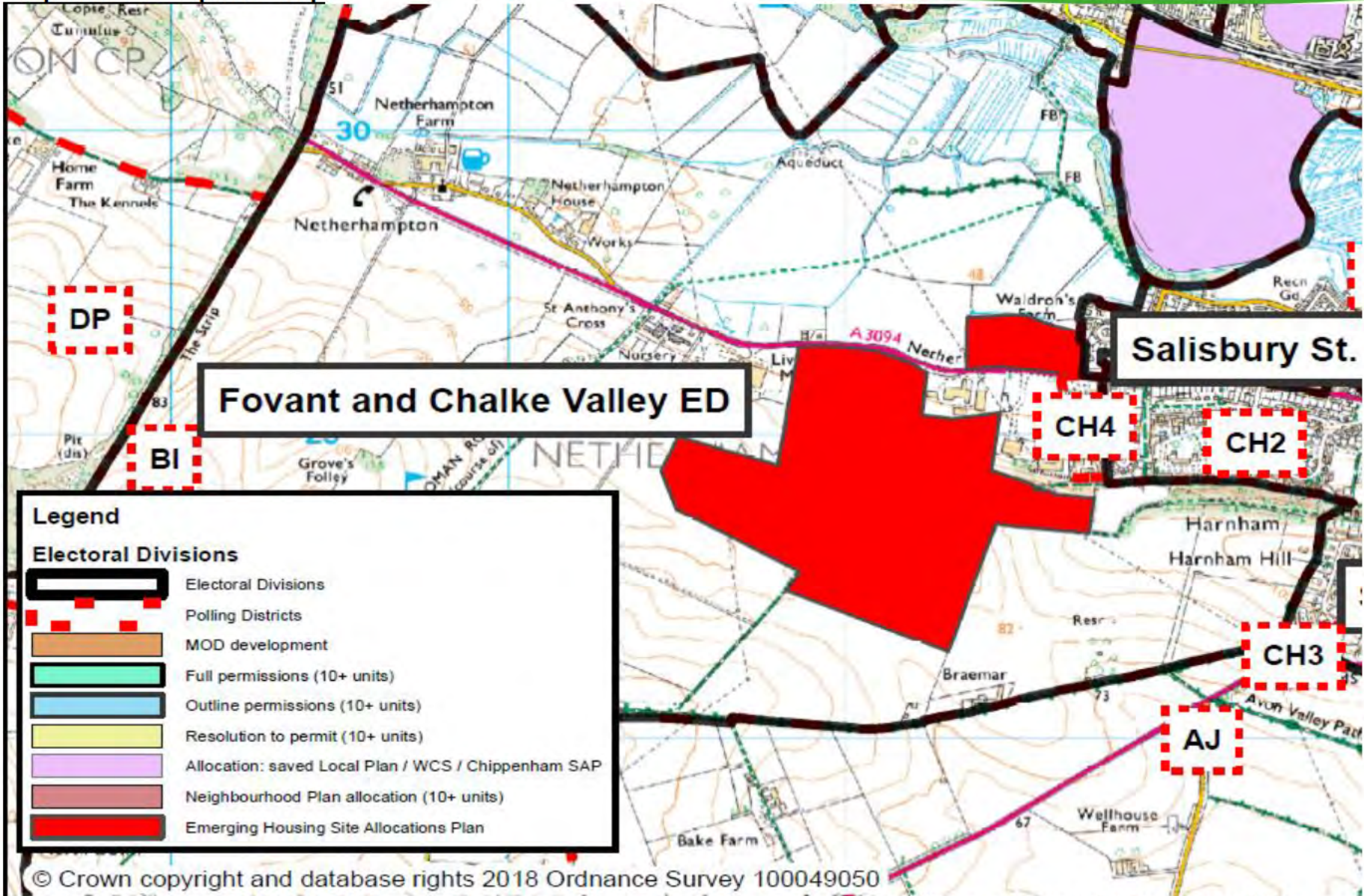


Map of Salisbury Harnham West Division (2021)



Page 6

Proposed Development Map



Page 7

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Planning application 19/05824/OUT – mixed use development including up to 640 dwellings, approved 11 December 2019.

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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 2: Langley Burrell Without 1/ Scheme 42: Chippenham 2

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of Langley Burrell Without included within the Chippenham Hardenhuish Division of Wiltshire Council (The 'Barrow Farm' ward) should be transferred to the Parish of Chippenham.

#### Reason

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and provides effective and convenient local governance.

[Reasoning from Chippenham Town Council \(Scheme 42\)](#)

**Electorate of Langley Burrell Without Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 351**

**Electorate of Chippenham Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 27250**

**Electorate of Barrow Farm Ward 2019 – Approx. 2**

**Electorate of Barrow Farm Ward 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 735**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

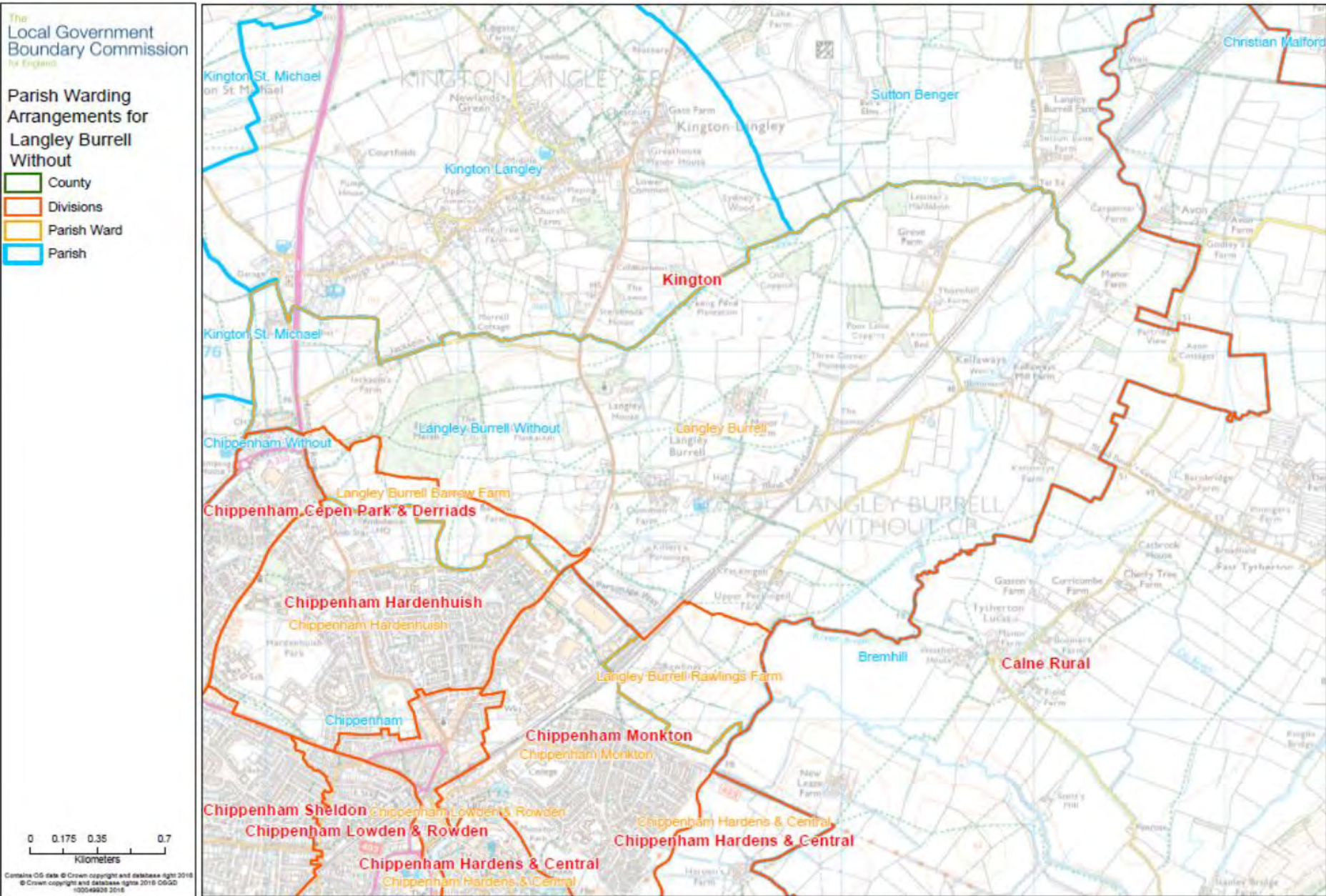
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Langley Burrell Without Parish Council	47.79	55.76	63.72	71.69	87.62	103.55	119.48	143.38
Chippenham Town Council	159.74	186.36	212.99	239.61	292.86	346.10	399.35	479.22

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<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

Map of Langley Burrell Without Parish (2021)



Map of Chippenham Town Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

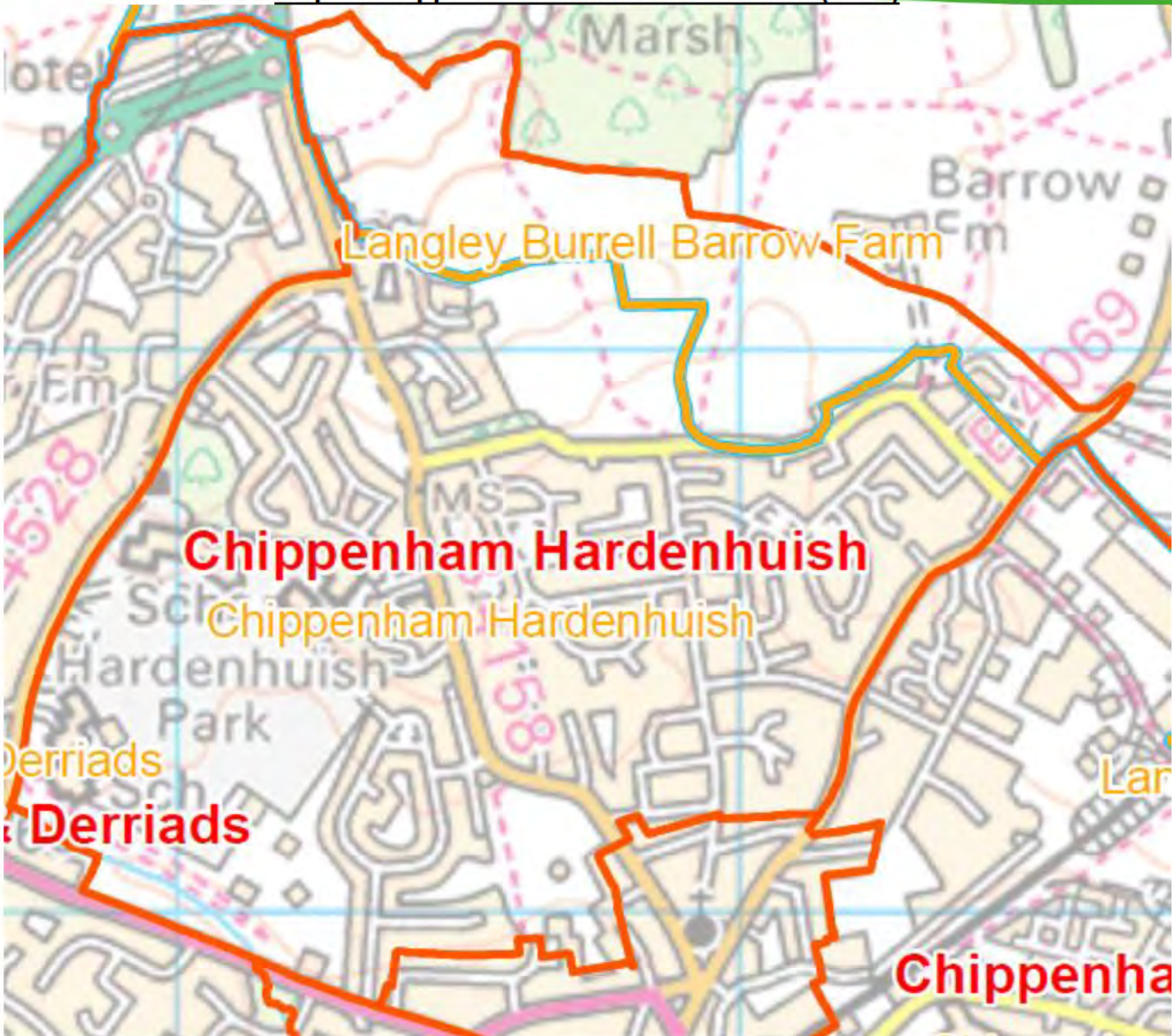
Parish Warding Arrangements for Chippenham

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish



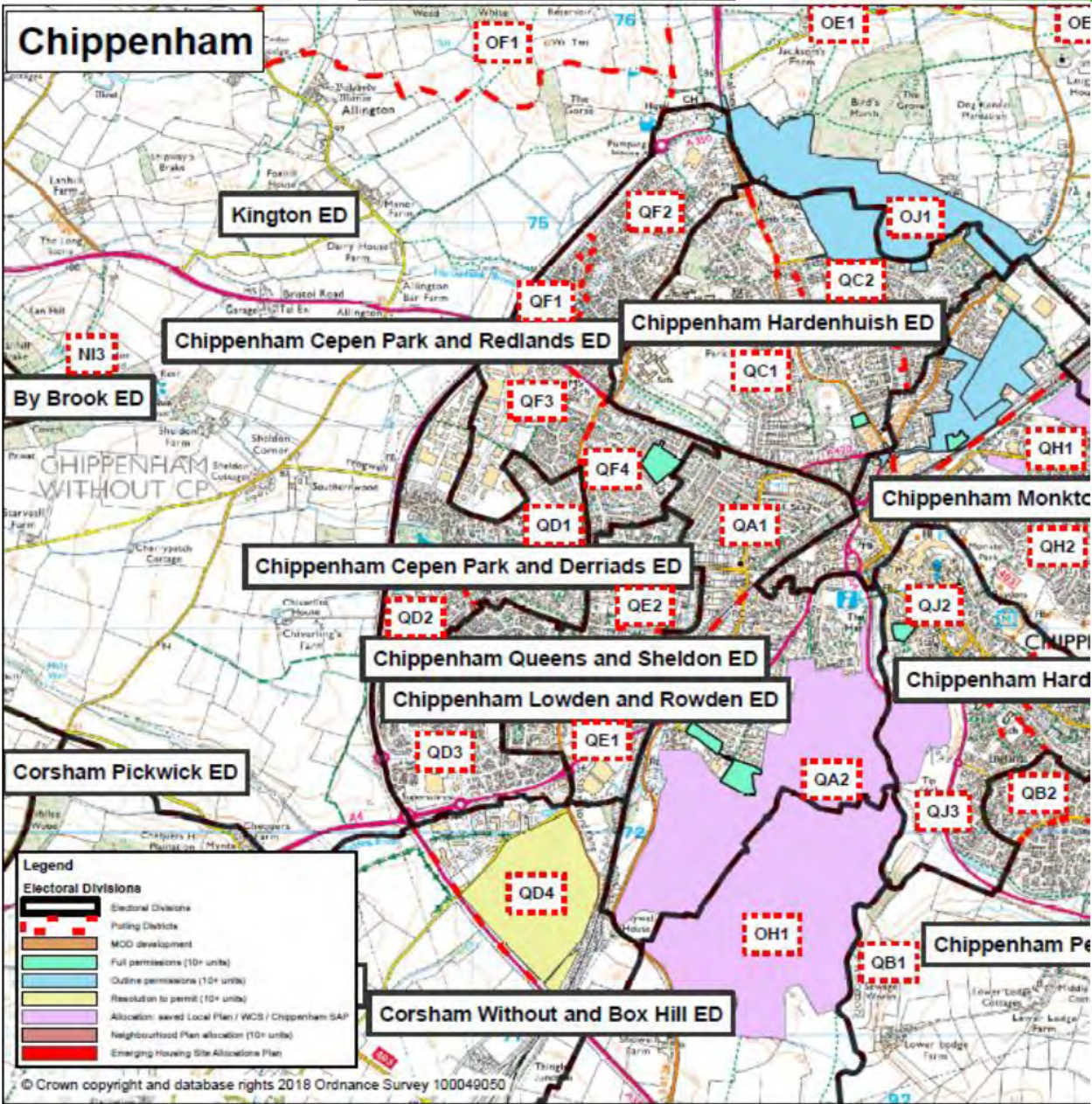
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Map of Chippenham Hardenhuish Division (2021)



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 100049926 2016

Proposed Development Map



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 3: Langley Burrell Without 2/ Scheme 43: Chippenham 3

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of Langley Burrell Without included within the Chippenham Monkton Division of Wiltshire Council (The 'Rawlings Farm' ward) should be transferred to the Parish of Chippenham.

#### Reason

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and provides effective and convenient local governance.

[Reasoning of Chippenham Town Council \(Scheme 43\)](#)

**Electorate of Langley Burrell Without Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 351**

**Electorate of Chippenham Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 27250**

**Electorate of Rawlings Farm Ward 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Rawlings Farm Ward 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 693**

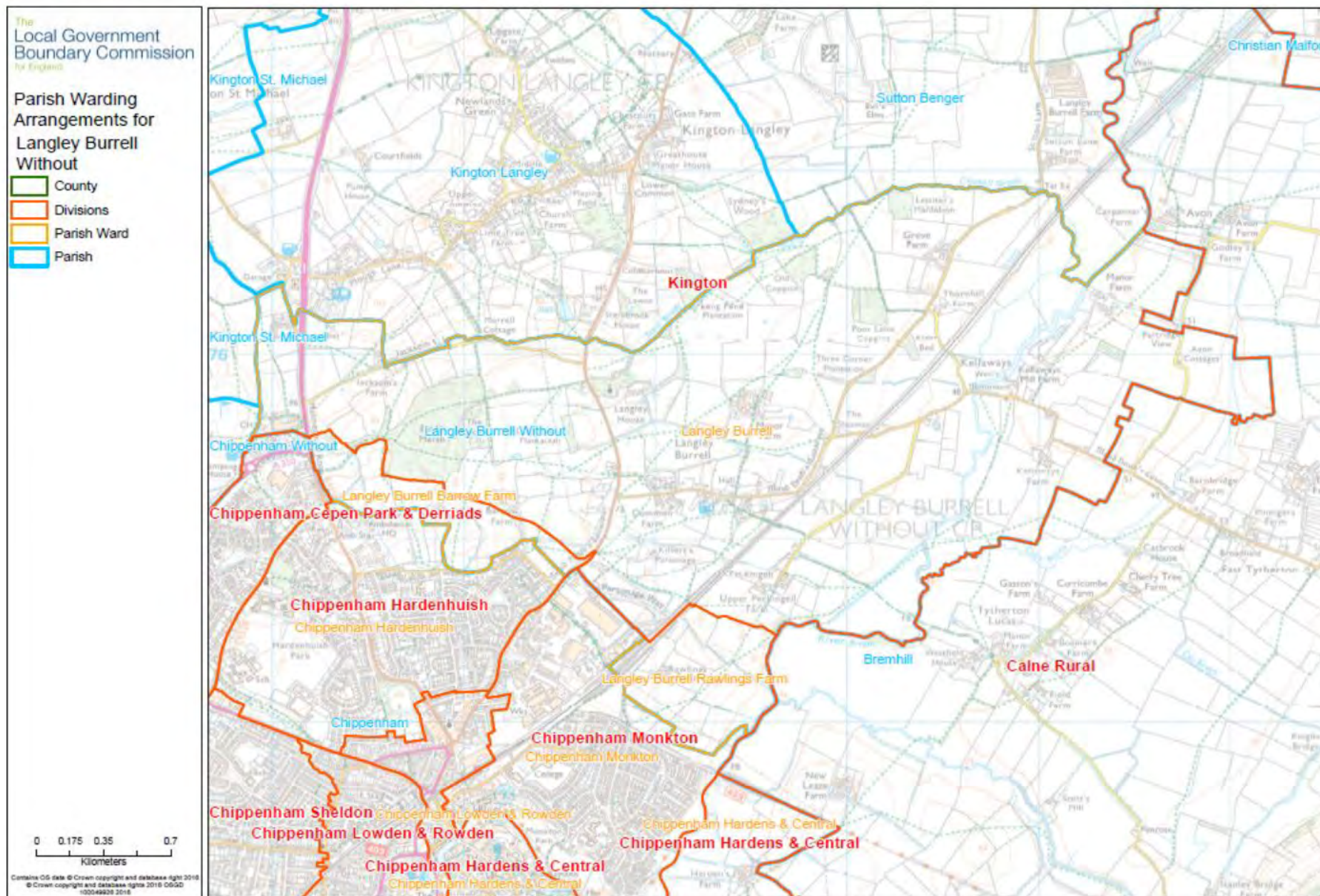
#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Langley Burrell Without Parish Council	47.79	55.76	63.72	71.69	87.62	103.55	119.48	143.38
Chippenham Town Council	159.74	186.36	212.99	239.61	292.86	346.10	399.35	479.22

<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Langley Burrell Without Parish (2021)





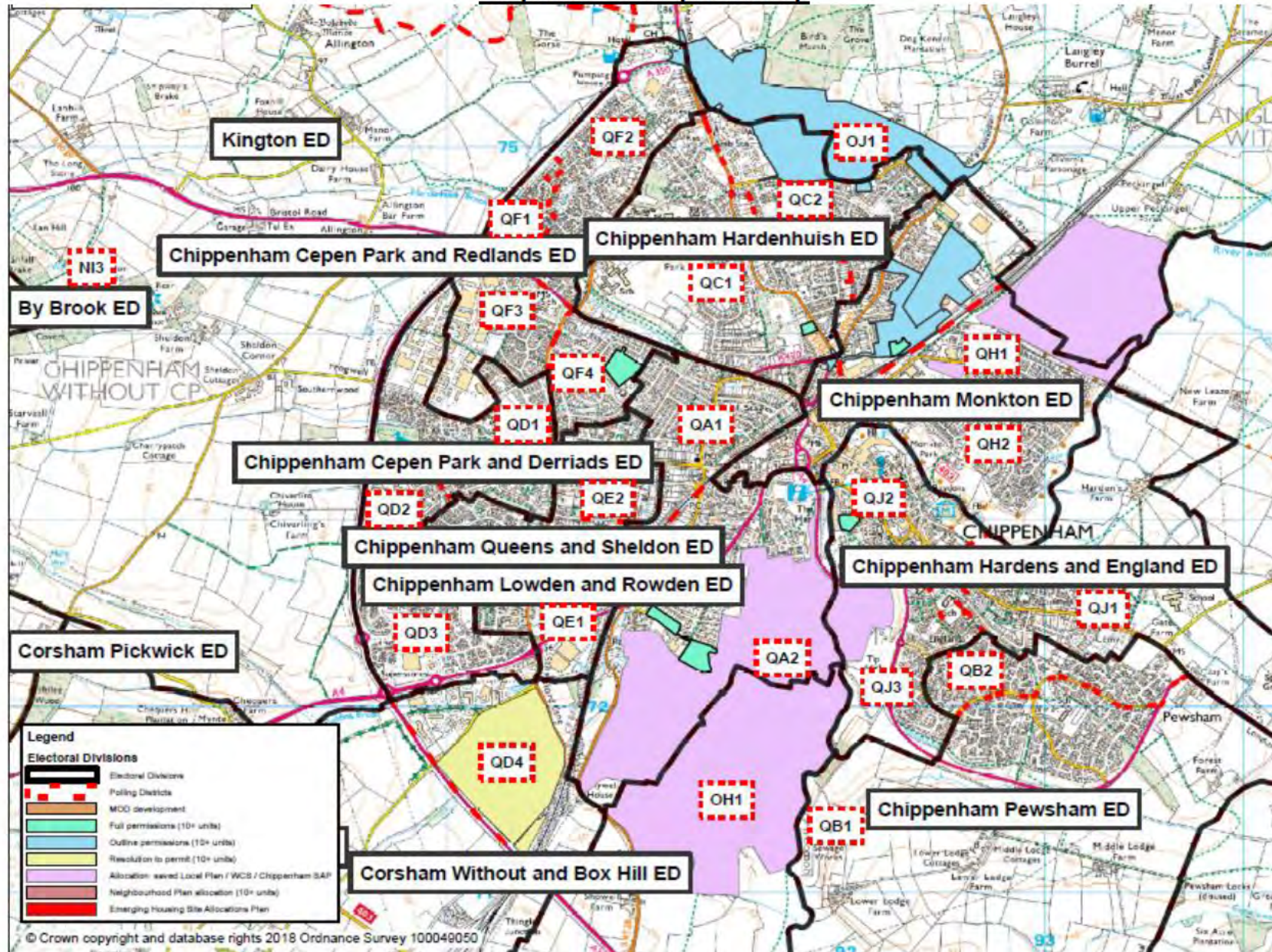
Map of Chippenham Town Parish (2021)



Map of Chippenham Monkton Division (2021)



## Proposed Development Map



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 4: Lacock/ Scheme 44: Chippenham 4

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of Lacock included within the Chippenham Lowden and Rowden Division of Wiltshire Council (The 'Showell' ward) should be transferred to the Parish of Chippenham.

#### Reason

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and provides effective and convenient local governance.

[Reasoning from Chippenham Town Council \(Scheme 44\)](#)

**Electorate of Lacock Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 826**

**Electorate of Chippenham Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 27250**

**Electorate of Showell Ward 2019 – Approx.18**

**Electorate of Showell Ward 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 443**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

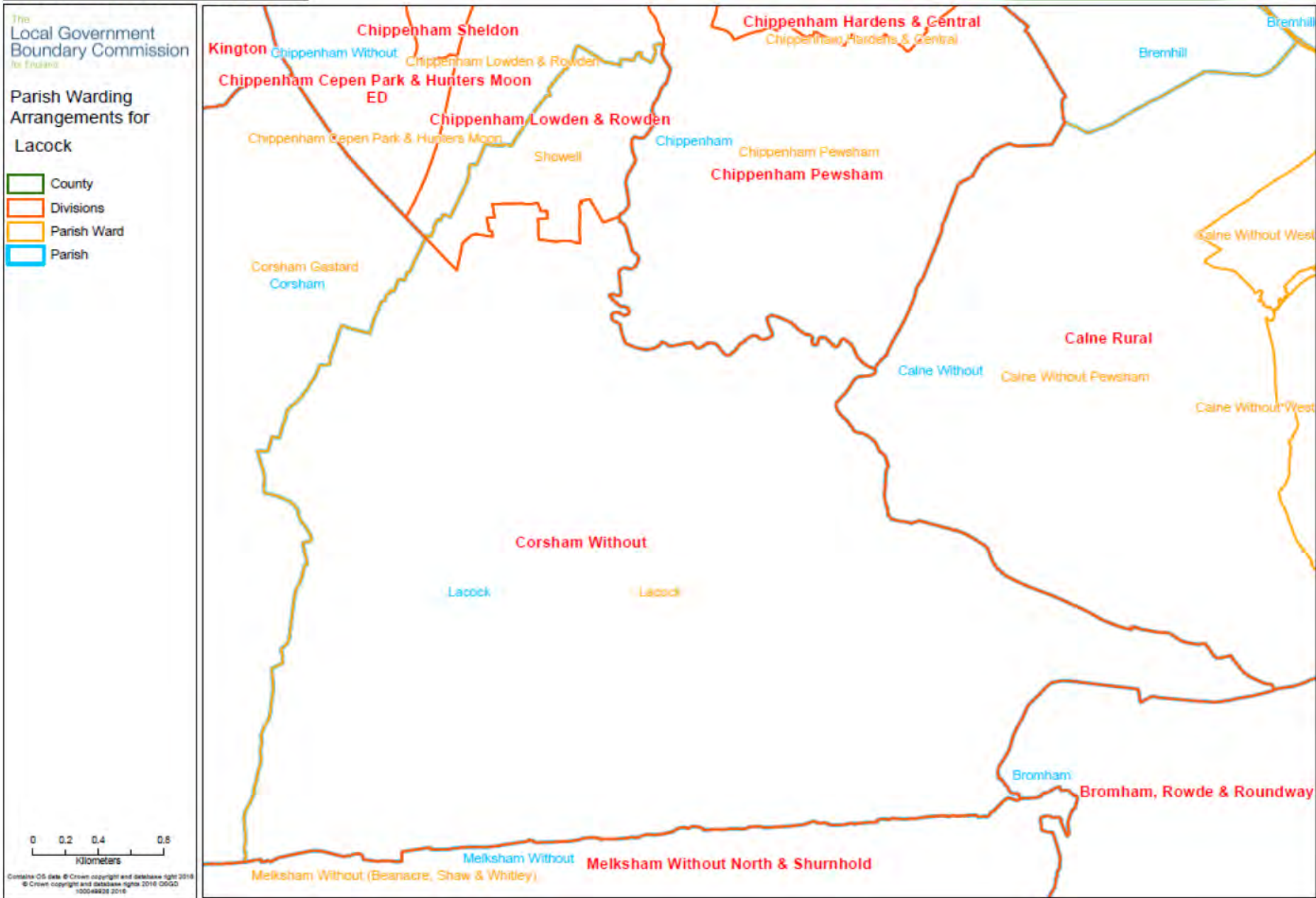
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Lacock Parish Council	23.55	27.47	31.40	35.32	43.17	51.02	58.87	70.64
Chippenham Town Council	159.74	186.36	212.99	239.61	292.86	346.10	399.35	479.22

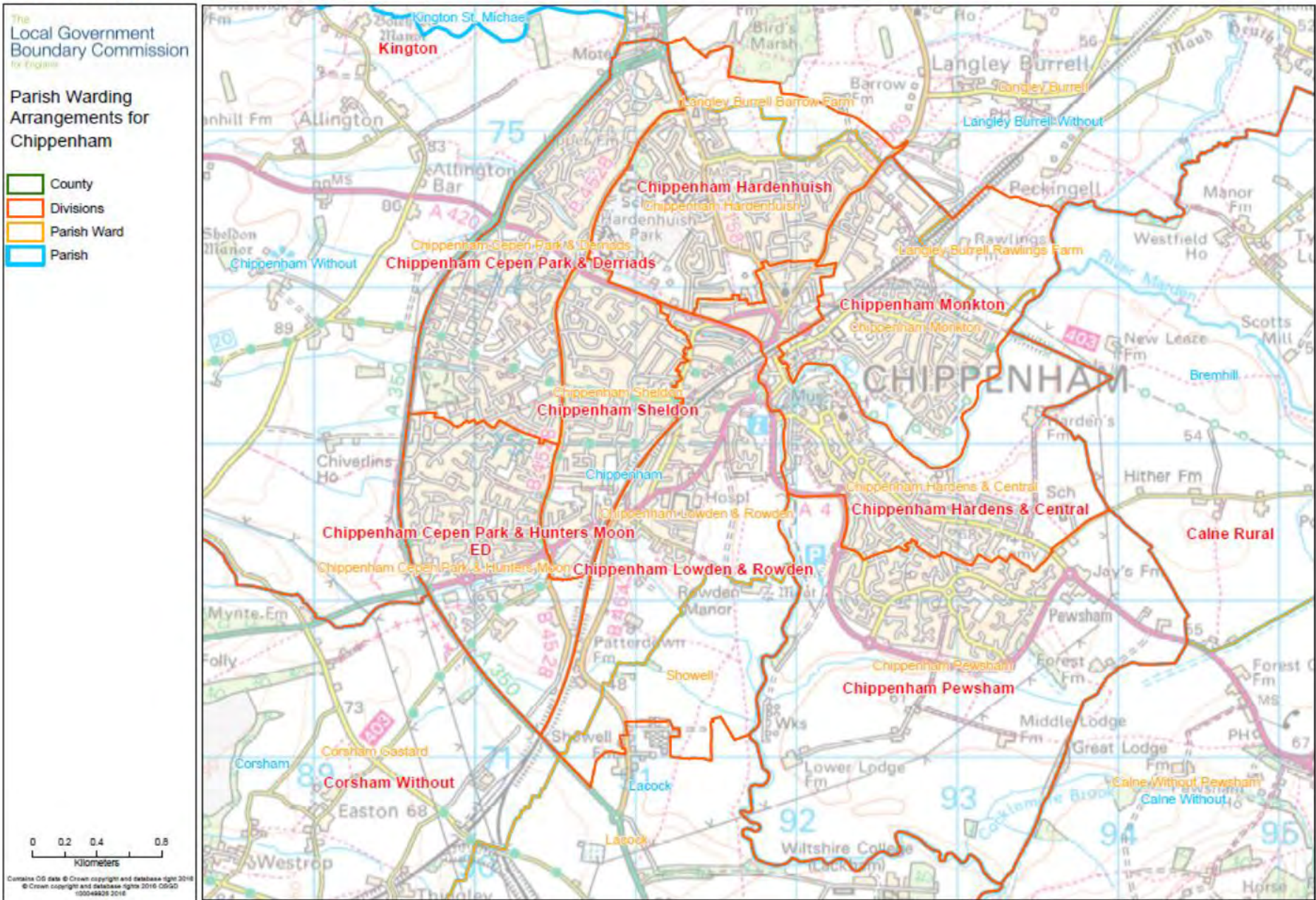
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<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

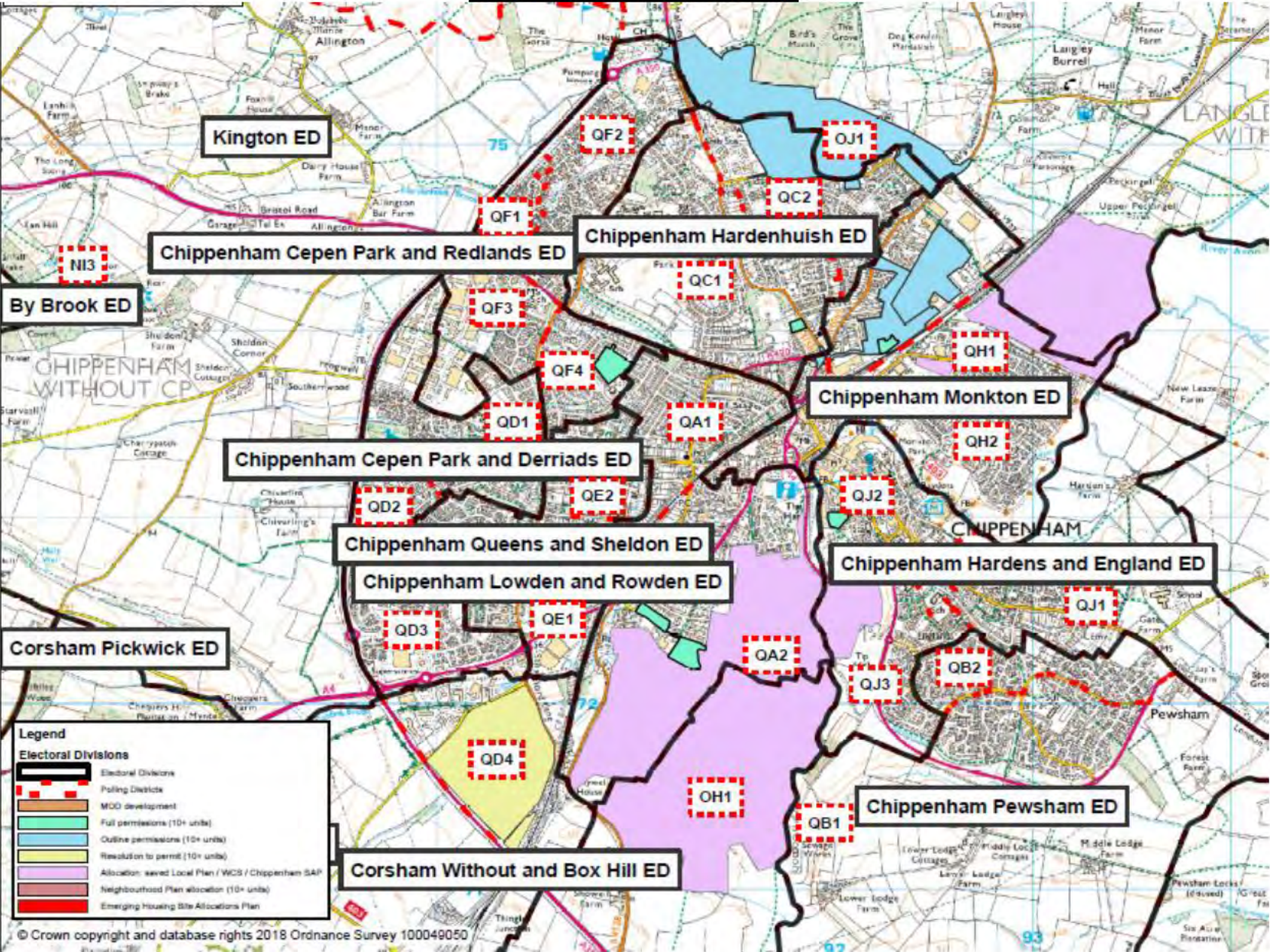
Map of Lacock Parish (2021)



Map of Chippenham Town Parish (2021)

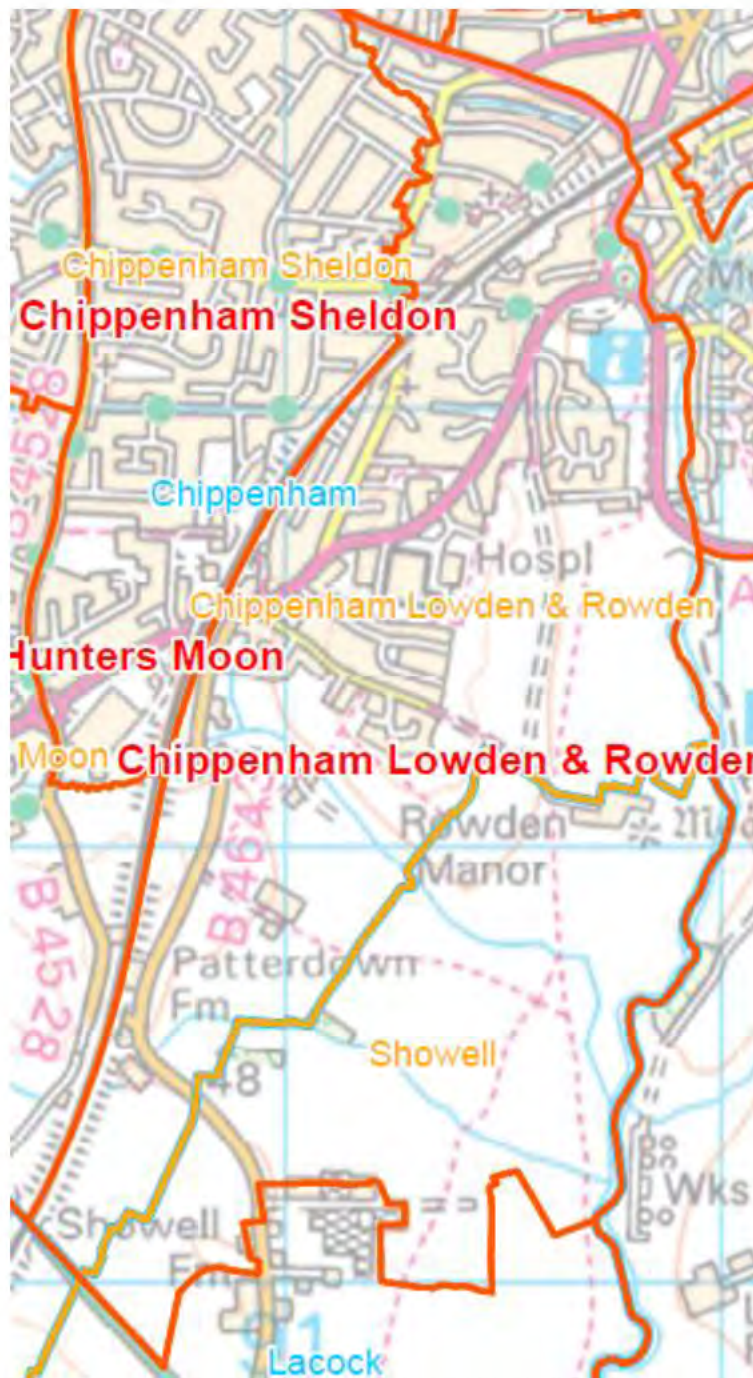


Proposed Development Map





**Map of Chippenham Lowden and Rowden Division (2021)**



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 5: Melksham Without 1/Scheme 9 Melksham Without 1

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of Melksham Without included within the Melksham East Division of Wiltshire Council (The 'Hunters Wood' ward) should be transferred to the Parish of Melksham.

#### Reason

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and provides effective and convenient for local governance.

[Reasoning from Melksham Without Parish Council \(Scheme 9\)](#)

**Electorate of Melksham Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 13151**

**Electorate of Melksham Without Parish 1 Oct 2019 – 5459**

**Electorate of Hunters Wood Ward 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Hunters Wood Ward 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 774**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Melksham Without Parish Council	50.46	58.87	67.28	75.69	92.51	109.33	126.15	151.38
Melksham Town Council	102.09	119.10	136.12	153.13	187.16	221.19	255.22	306.26

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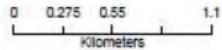
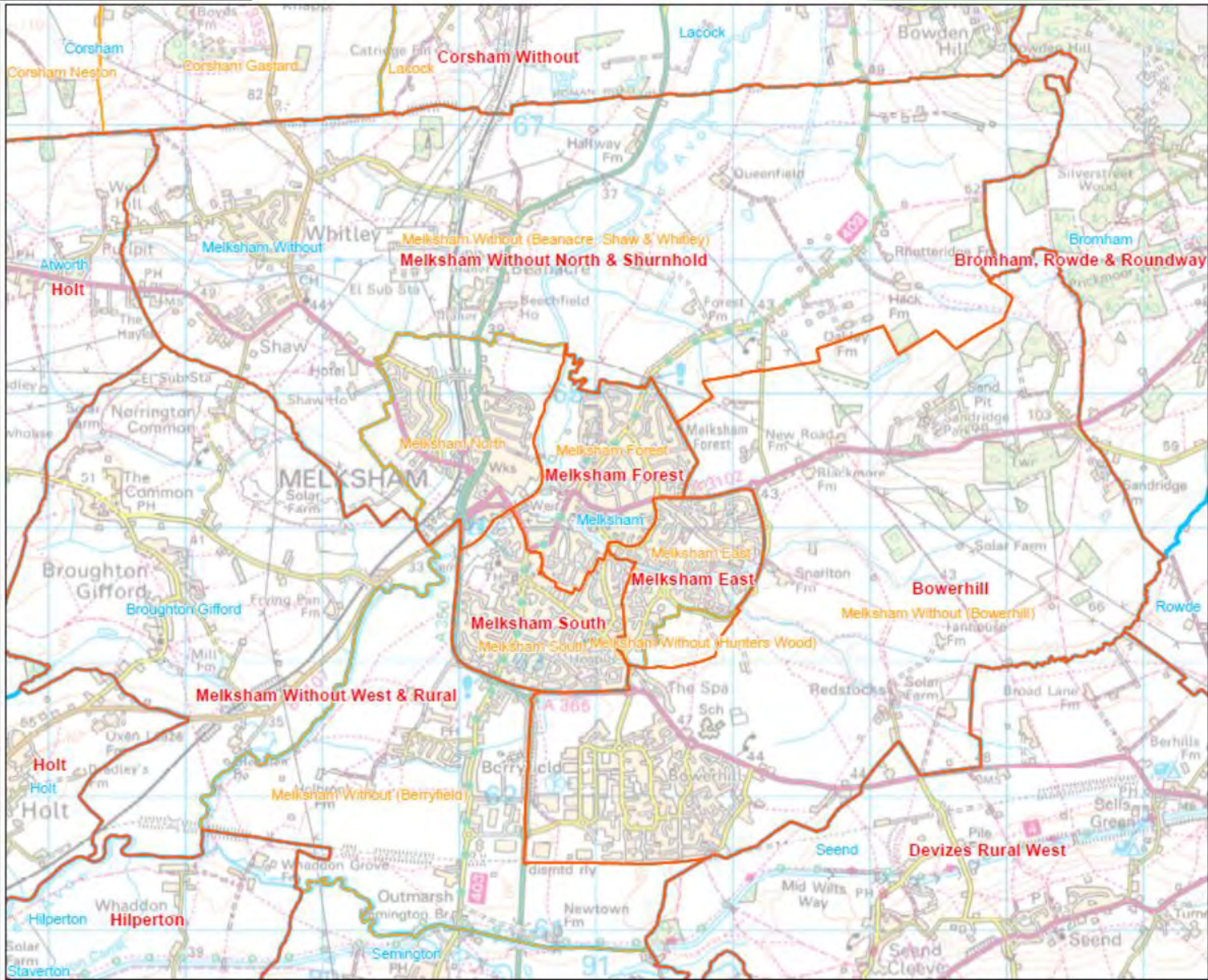
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

Map of Melksham Without Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Melksham Without

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish







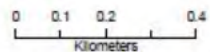
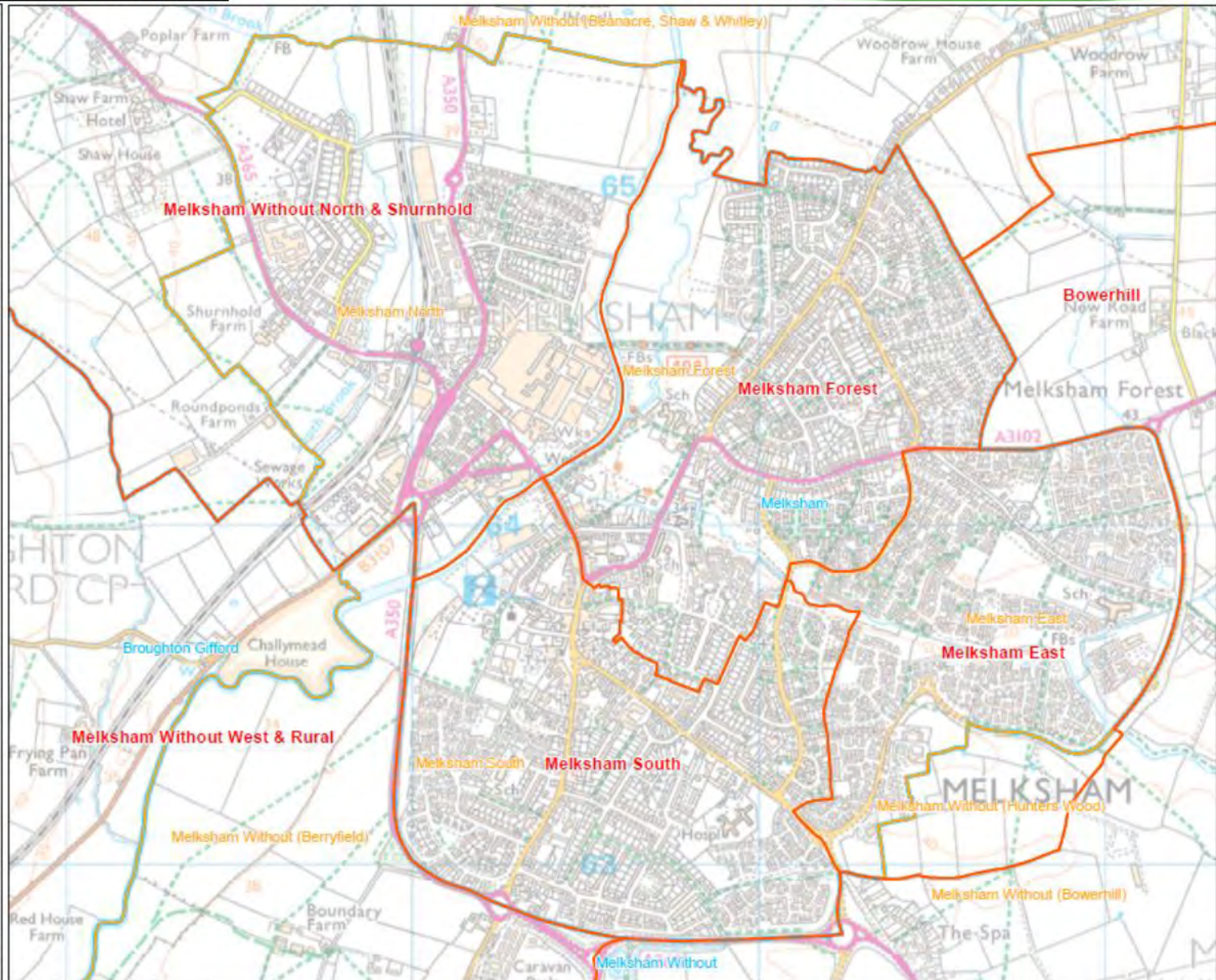
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## Map of Melksham Town Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Melksham

-  County
-  Divisions
-  Parish Ward
-  Parish

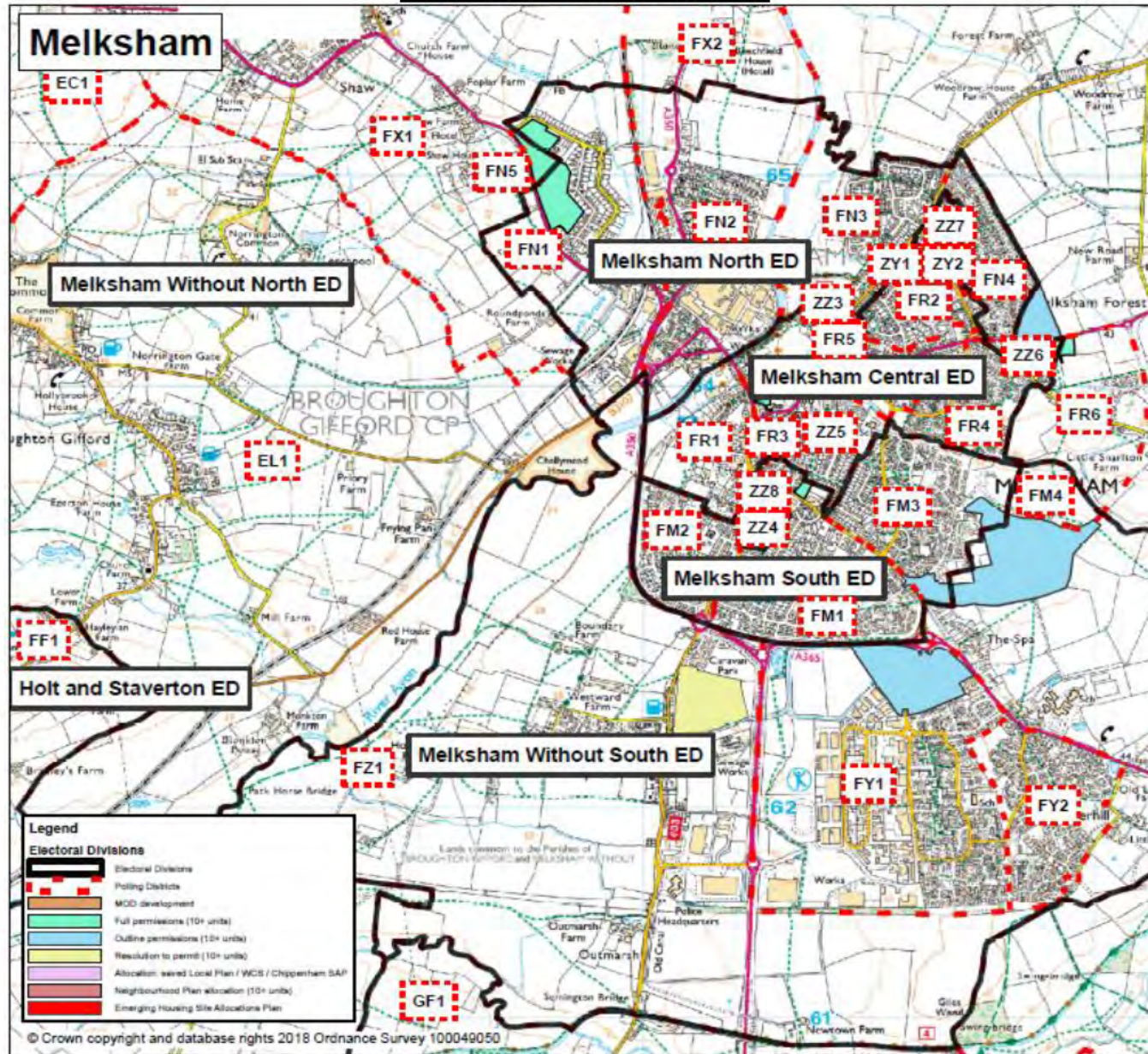


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**Map of Melksham East Division (2021)**



## Proposed Development Map



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## Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020 Information Sheet

### Scheme 6: Melksham Without 2/ Scheme 10: Melksham Without 2

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of Melksham Without encompassing the new development W15.12454 (Land North of Sandridge Common) should be transferred to the Parish of Melksham.

To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Melksham East Division to make it coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved.

#### Reason

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and is effective and convenient for local governance.

[Reasoning from Melksham Without Parish Council \(Scheme 10\)](#)

**Electorate of Melksham Without Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 13151**

**Electorate of Melksham Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 – 5459**

**Electorate of Proposed Area 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Proposed Area 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 172**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Melksham Without Parish Council	50.46	58.87	67.28	75.69	92.51	109.33	126.15	151.38
Melksham Town Council	102.09	119.10	136.12	153.13	187.16	221.19	255.22	306.26

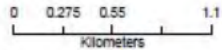
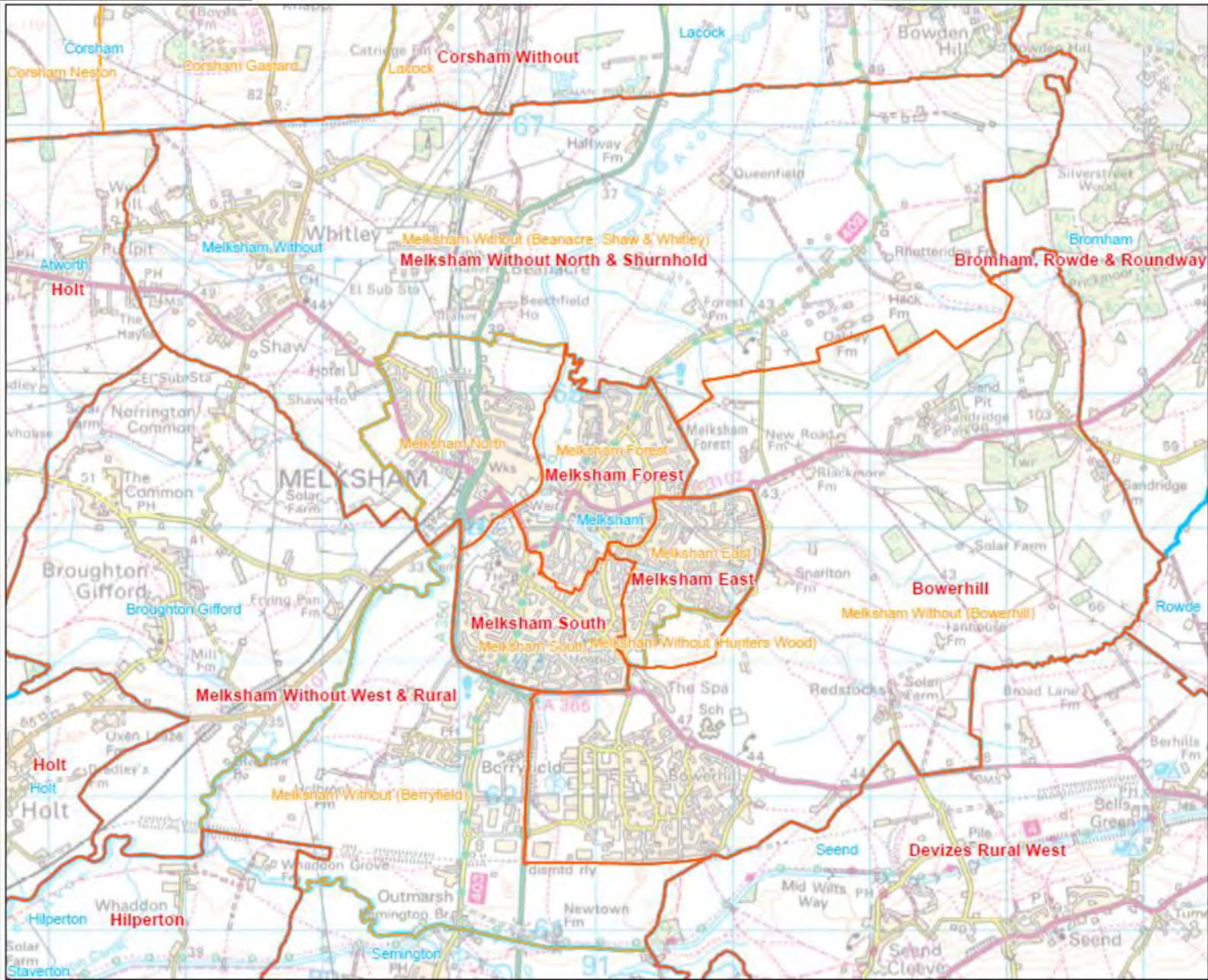
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

Map of Melksham Without Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Melksham Without

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish



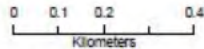
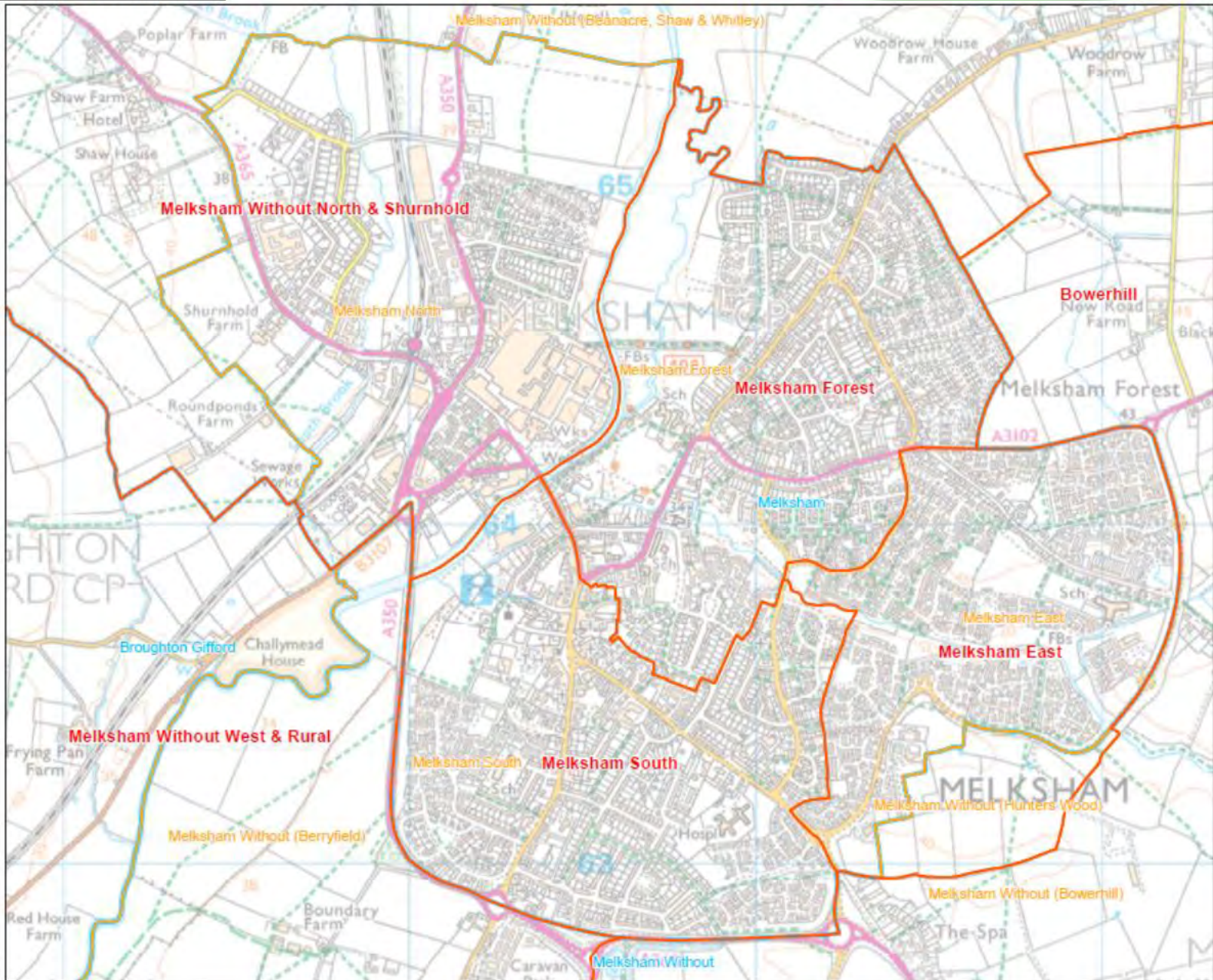
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Map of Melksham Town Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Melksham

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish



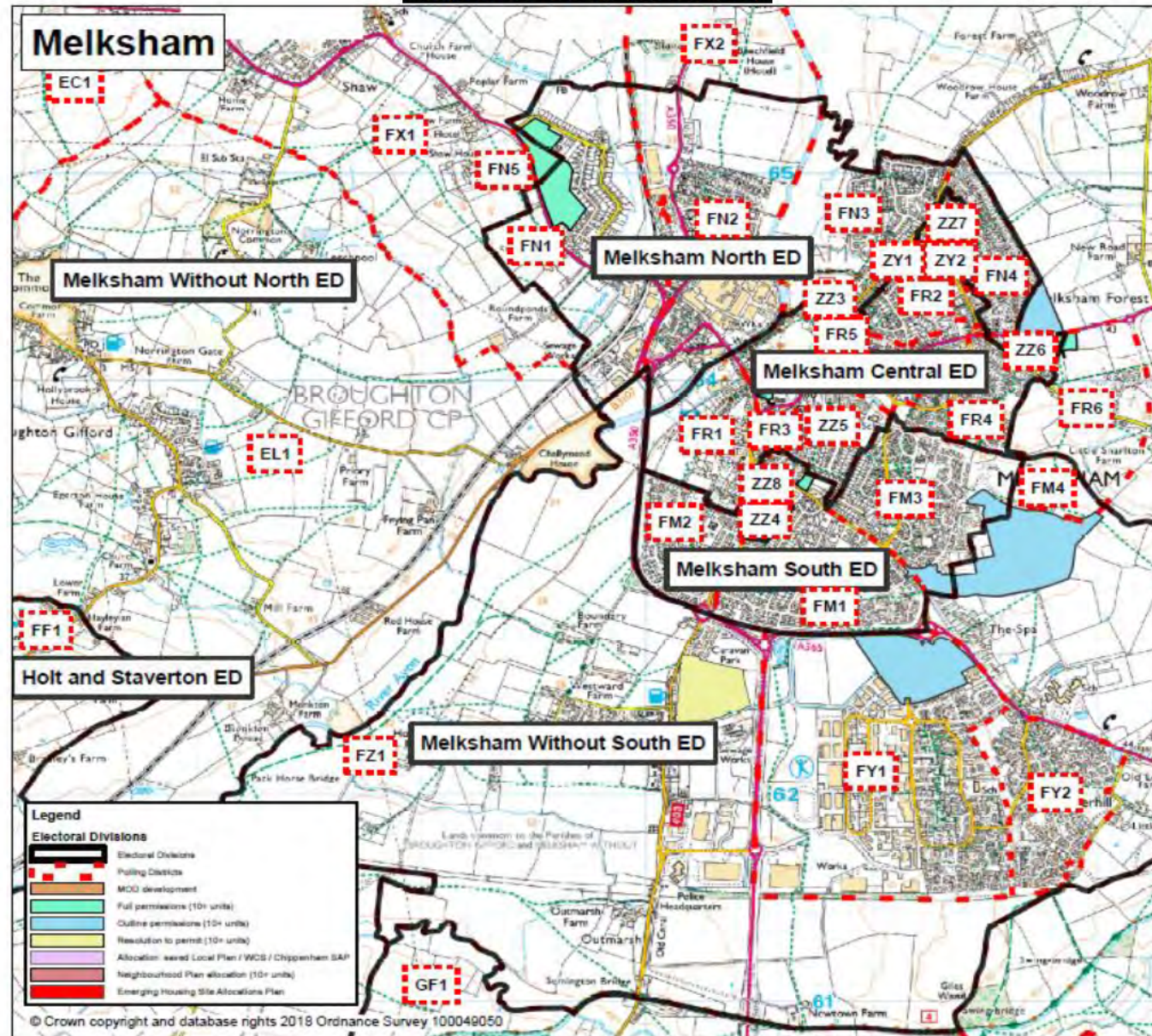
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**Map of Melksham East Division (2021)**

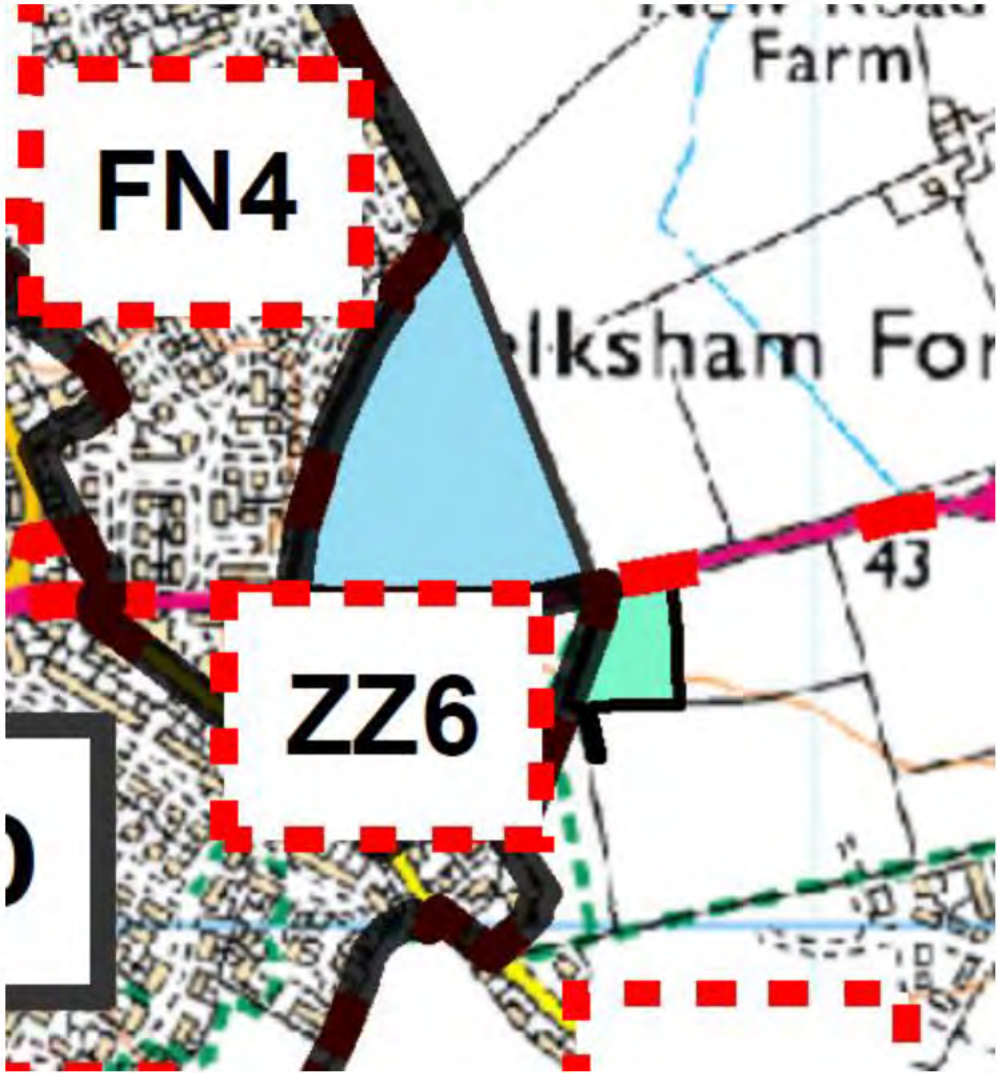


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## Proposed Development Map



Map of proposed area (in blue)



# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 7: North Bradley 1

*Trowbridge Town Council have submitted a proposal at Scheme 15 which covers some, but not all, of the same area*

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of North Bradley included within the Trowbridge Drynham Division of Wiltshire Council (The 'White Horse' ward) should be transferred to the Parish of Trowbridge.

#### Reason

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and is effective and convenient for local governance.

**Electorate of North Bradley Parish 2019 - 1398**

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of White Horse Ward 2019 – 8**

**Electorate of White Horse Ward 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 476**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
North Bradley Parish Council	13.53	15.78	18.04	20.29	24.80	29.31	33.82	40.58
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

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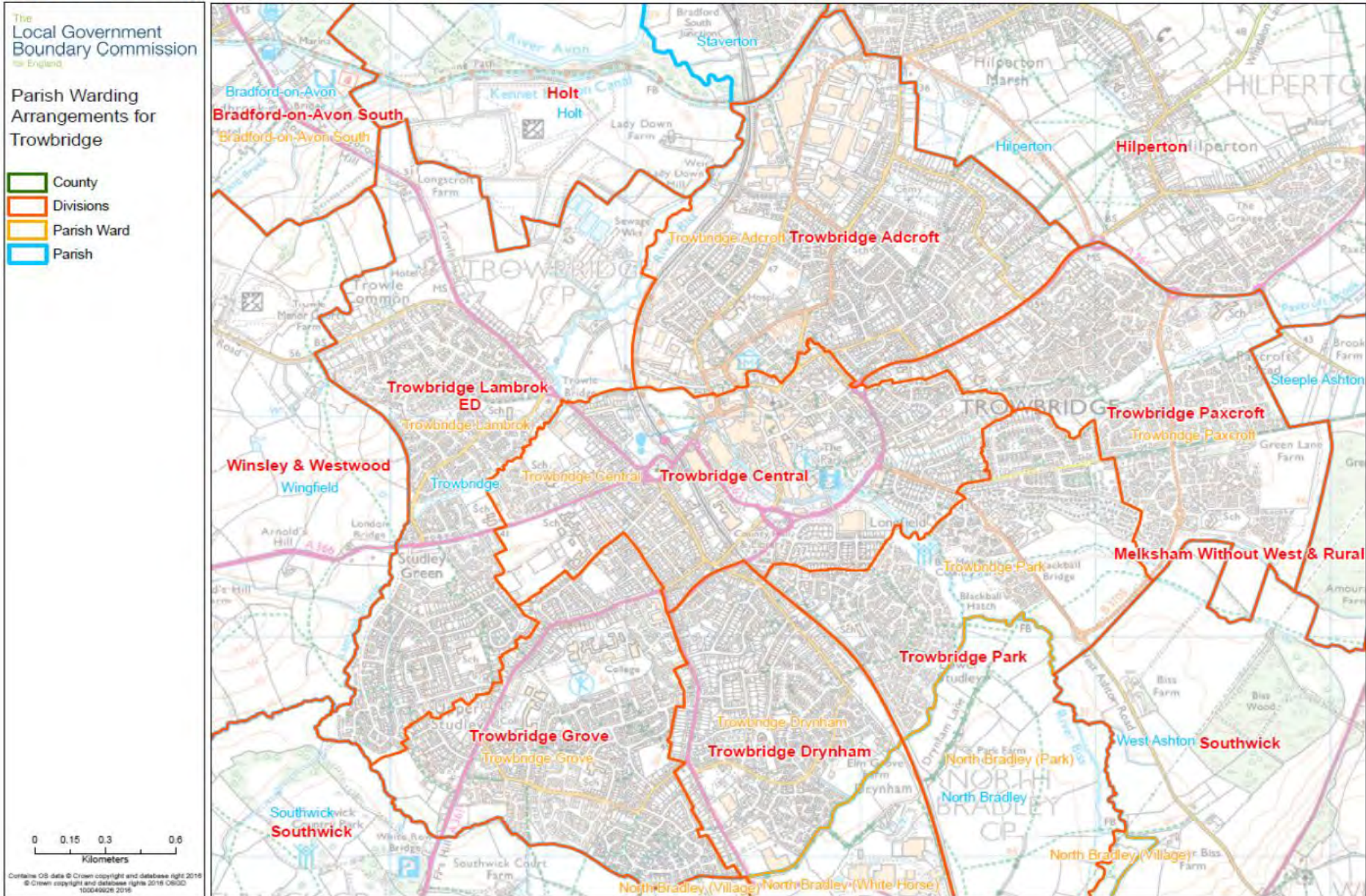
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of North Bradley Parish (2021)

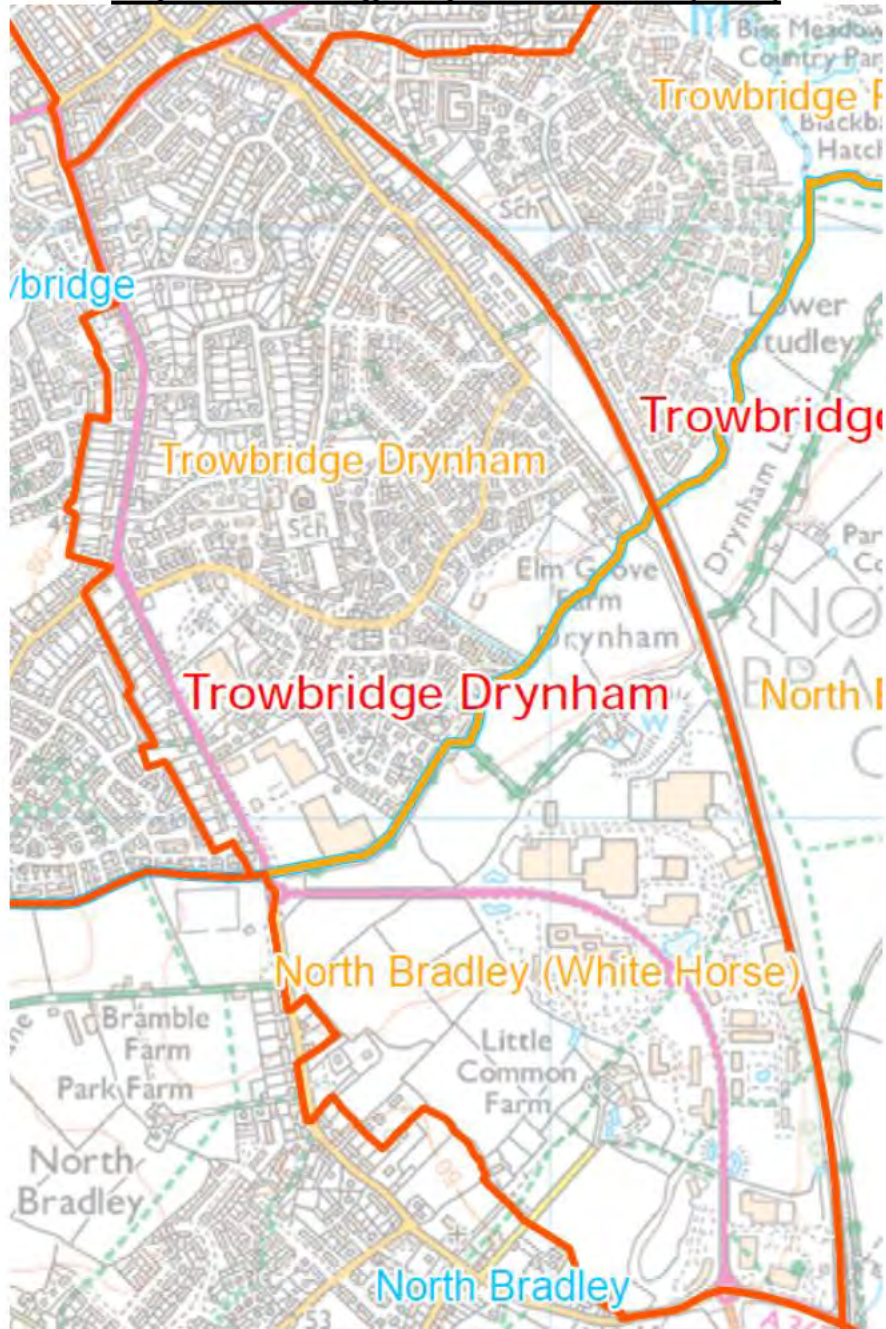




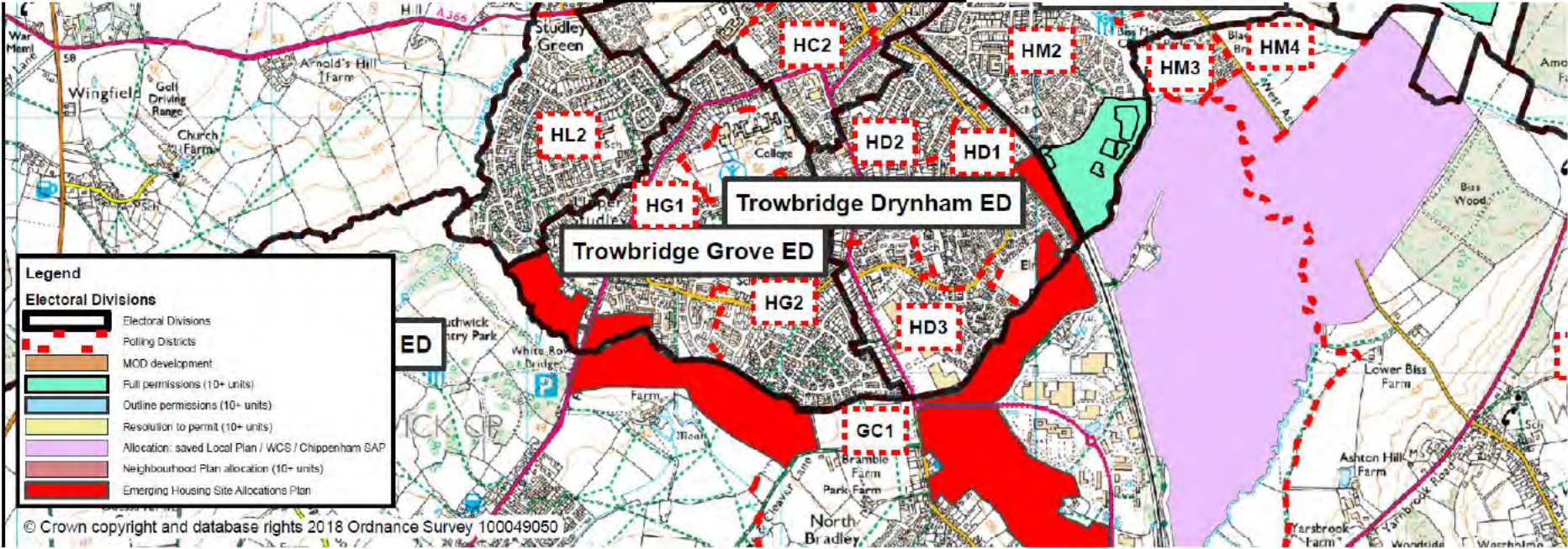
## Map of Trowbridge Town Parish (2021)



**Map of Trowbridge Drynham Division (2021)**



Proposed Development Map



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 8: North Bradley 2

*Trowbridge Town Council have submitted a proposal at Scheme 15 which includes this area, among others*

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To consider whether the area of the Parish of North Bradley included within the Trowbridge Park Division of Wiltshire Council (The 'Park' ward) should be transferred to the Parish of Trowbridge.

To consider whether to do so would reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and provide effective and convenient local governance.

**Electorate of North Bradley Parish 2019 - 1398**

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 2019 – 26717**

**Electorate of Park Ward 2019 – 3**

**Electorate of Park Ward 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 1624**

**Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts**

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
North Bradley Parish Council	13.53	15.78	18.04	20.29	24.80	29.31	33.82	40.58
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

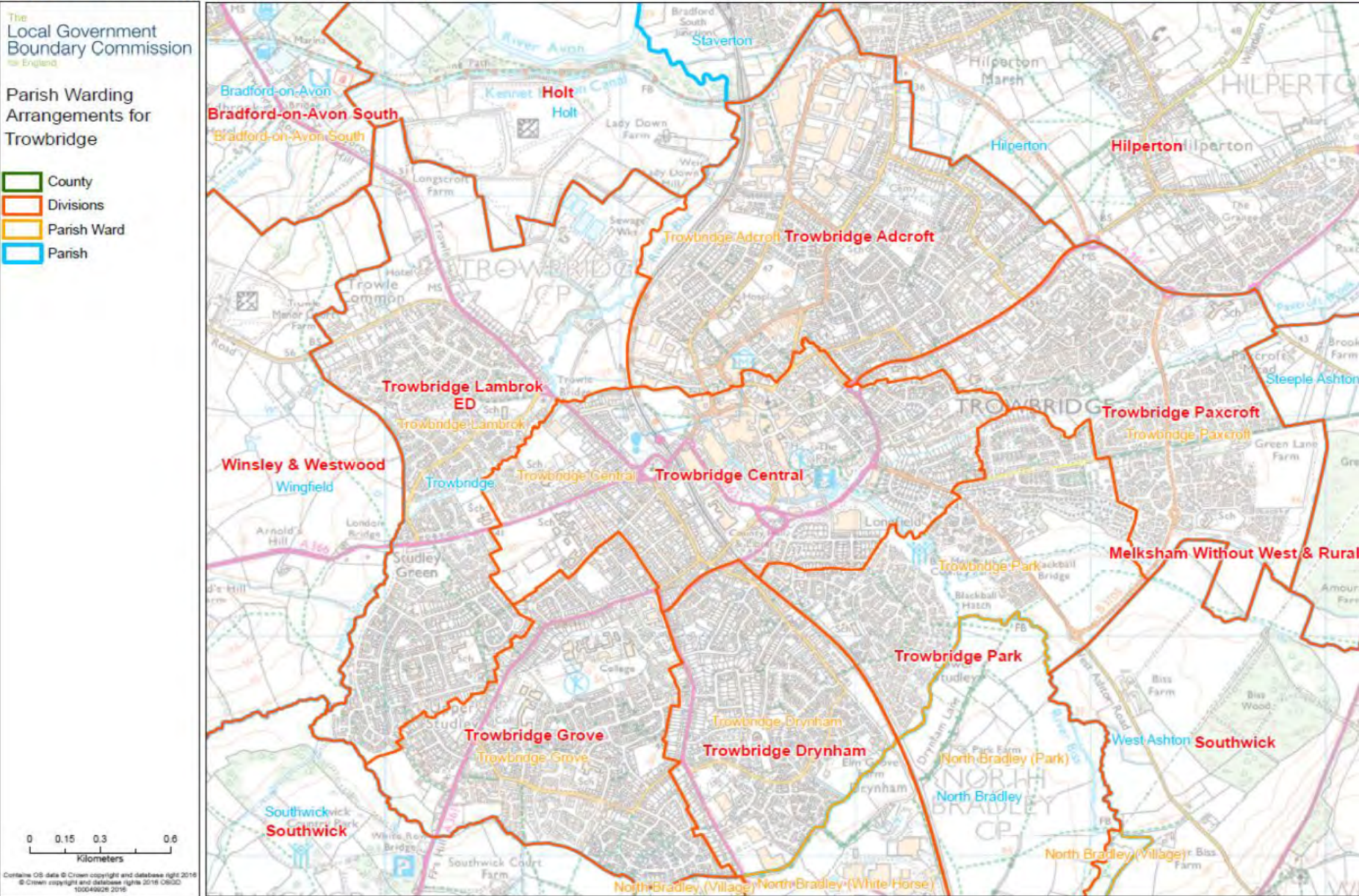
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<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

**Map of North Bradley Parish (2021)**



Map of Trowbridge Town Parish (2021)



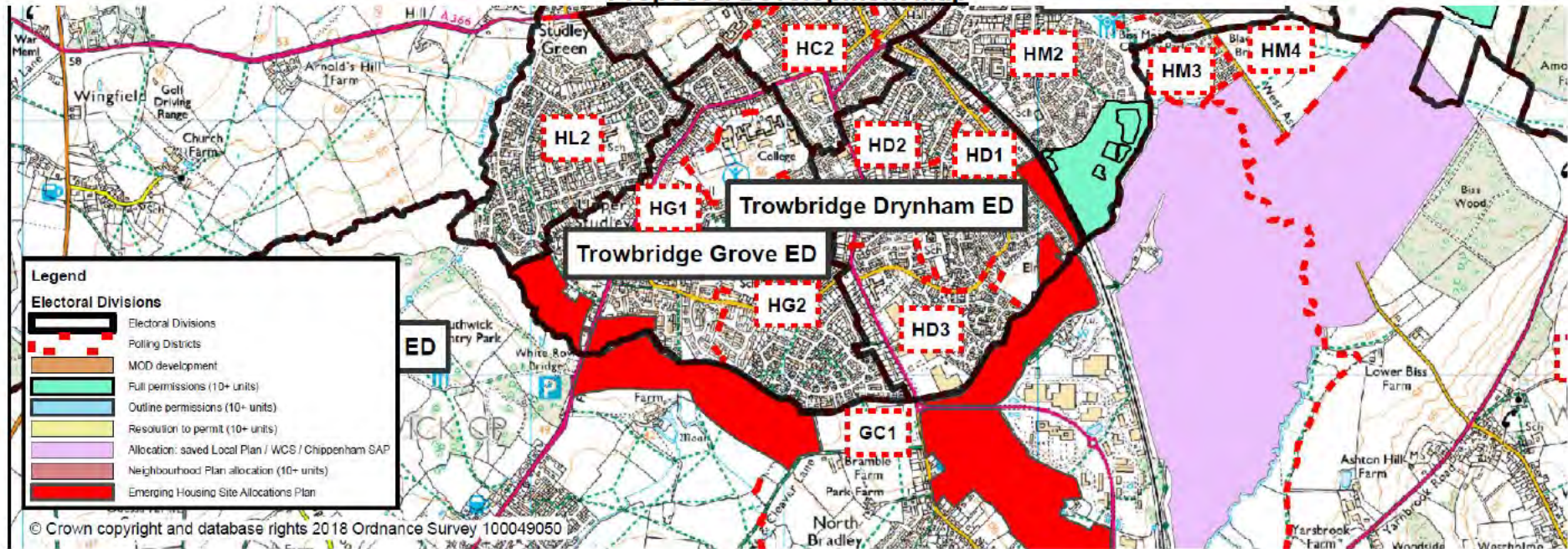
**Map of Trowbridge Park Division (2021)**



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Proposed Development Map



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 11: Seend 1

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To move the existing boundary from Seend Parish Council to Melksham Without Parish Council encompassing BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) canalside picnic area. There are no dwellings or electors that would be affected by this change

Added by Wiltshire Council: Also to consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Bowerhill Division to make it coterminous with the parish boundary, should the above change be approved.

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Melksham Without Parish Council for their proposal](#)

**Electorate of Melksham Without Parish 2019 - 5459**

**Electorate of Seend Parish 2019 - 913**

**Electorate of proposed area 2019 - 0**

**Electorate of proposed area 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> - 0**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Melksham Without Parish Council	50.46	58.87	67.28	75.69	92.51	109.33	126.15	151.38
Seend Parish Council	24.85	28.99	33.13	37.27	45.55	53.83	62.12	74.54

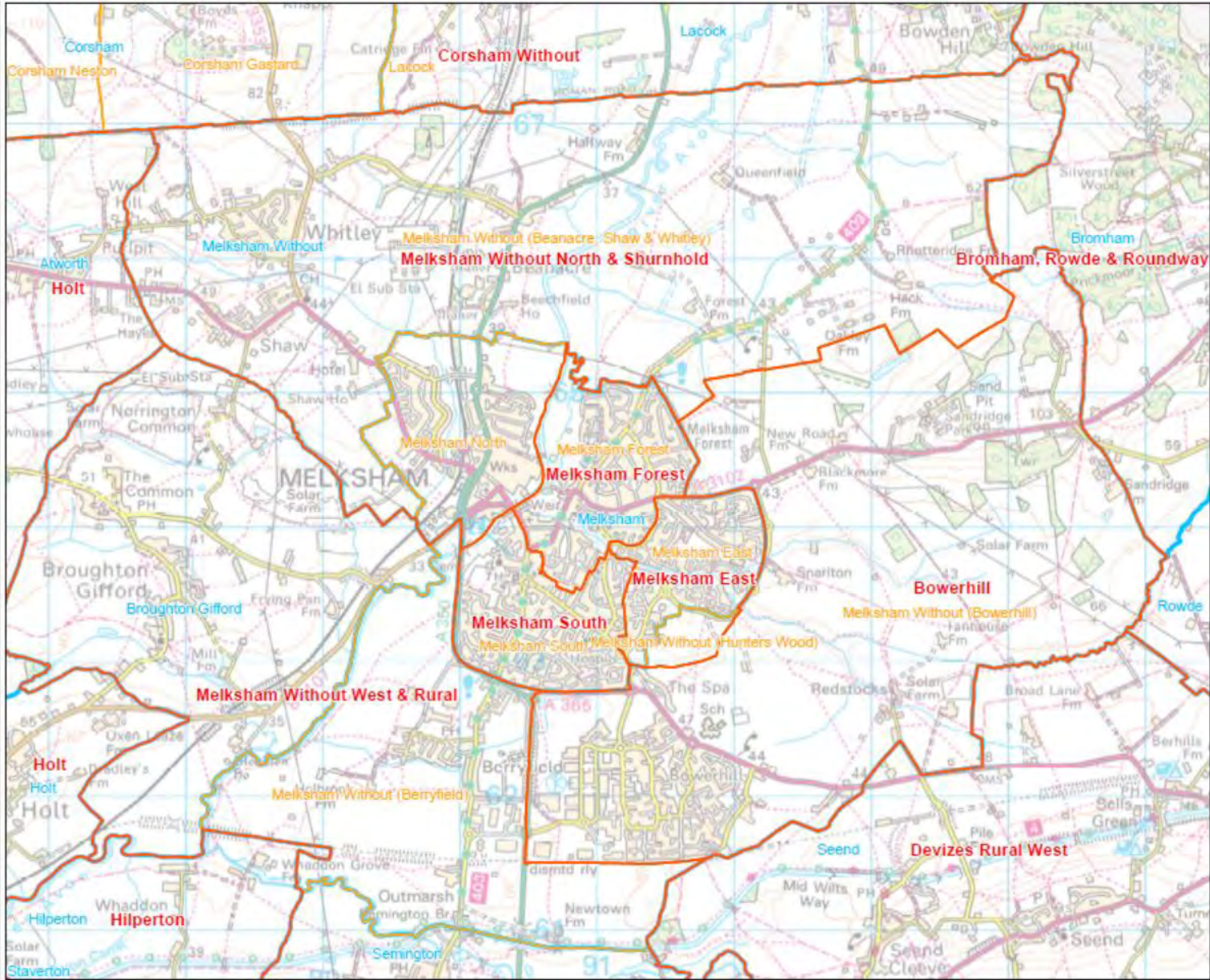
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Melksham Without Parish (2021)

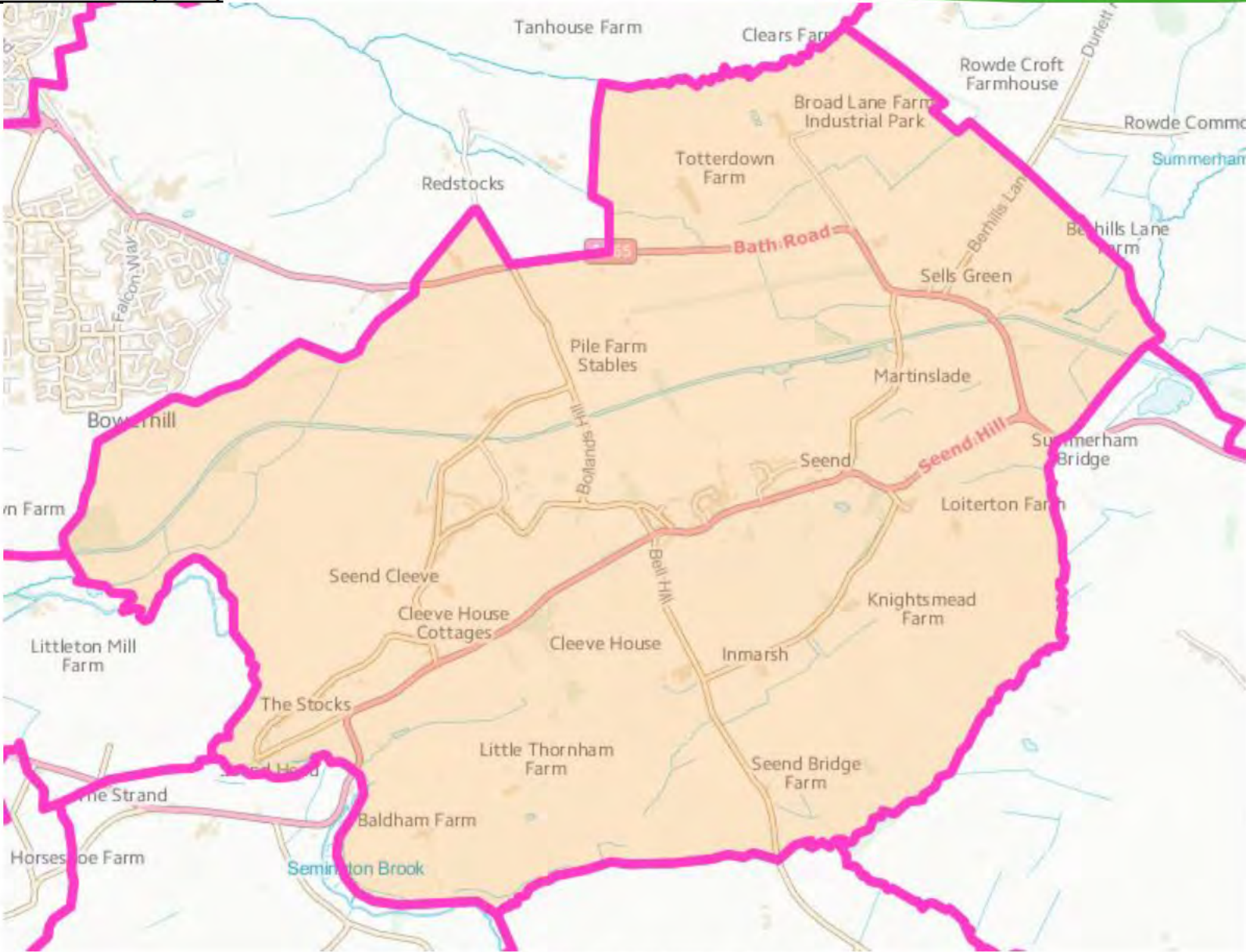
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Melksham Without

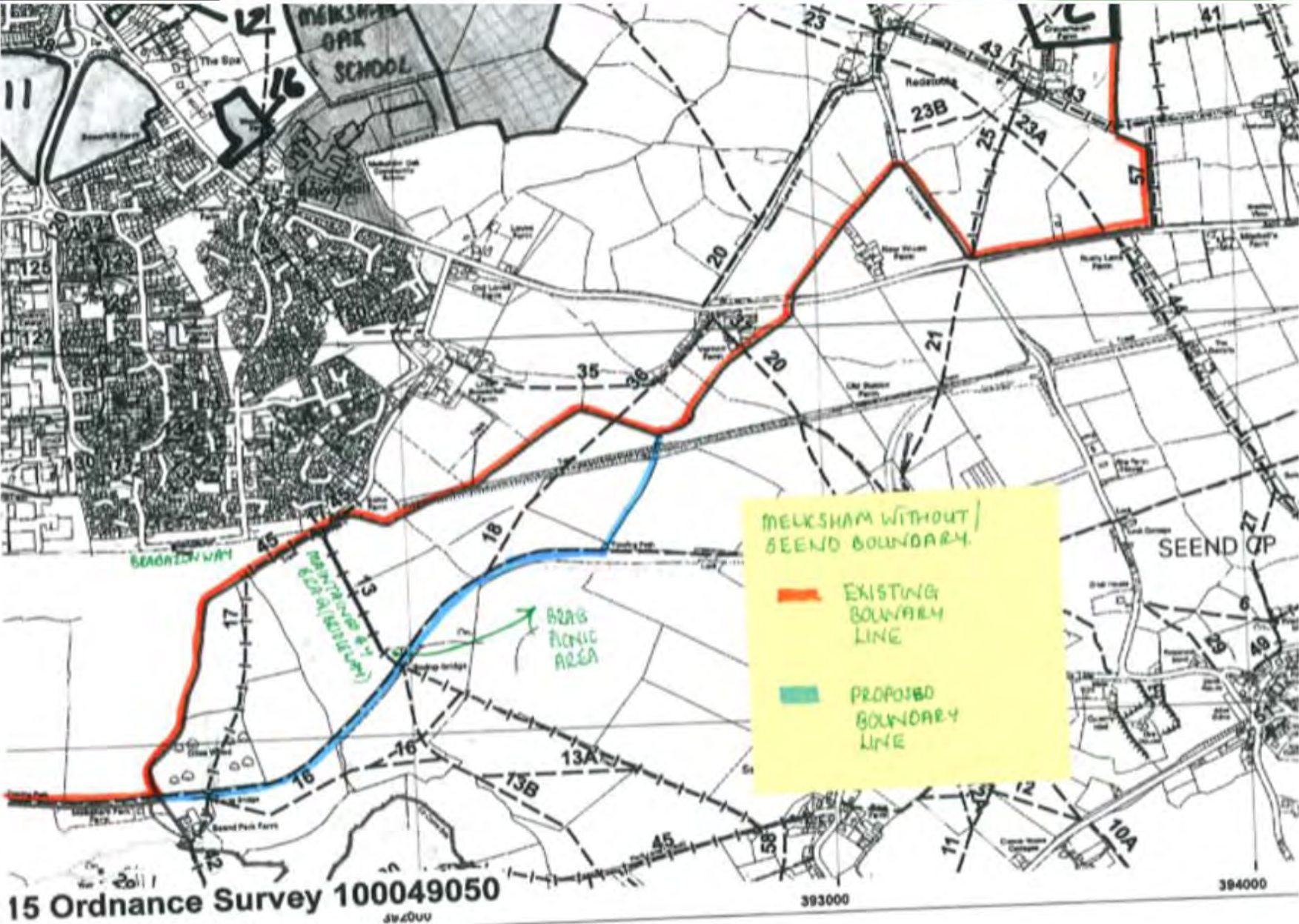
- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish



Map of Seend Parish (2021)



Proposed Area Map





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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 13: Trowbridge 1

---

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

(Area 1) Land south and west of Elizabeth Way to be transferred to Trowbridge TC from Hilperton PC

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Trowbridge Town Council, the proposer of the Scheme.](#)

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of Hilperton Parish 2019 - 3400**

**Electorate of Area 1 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Area 1 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 320**

**Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts**

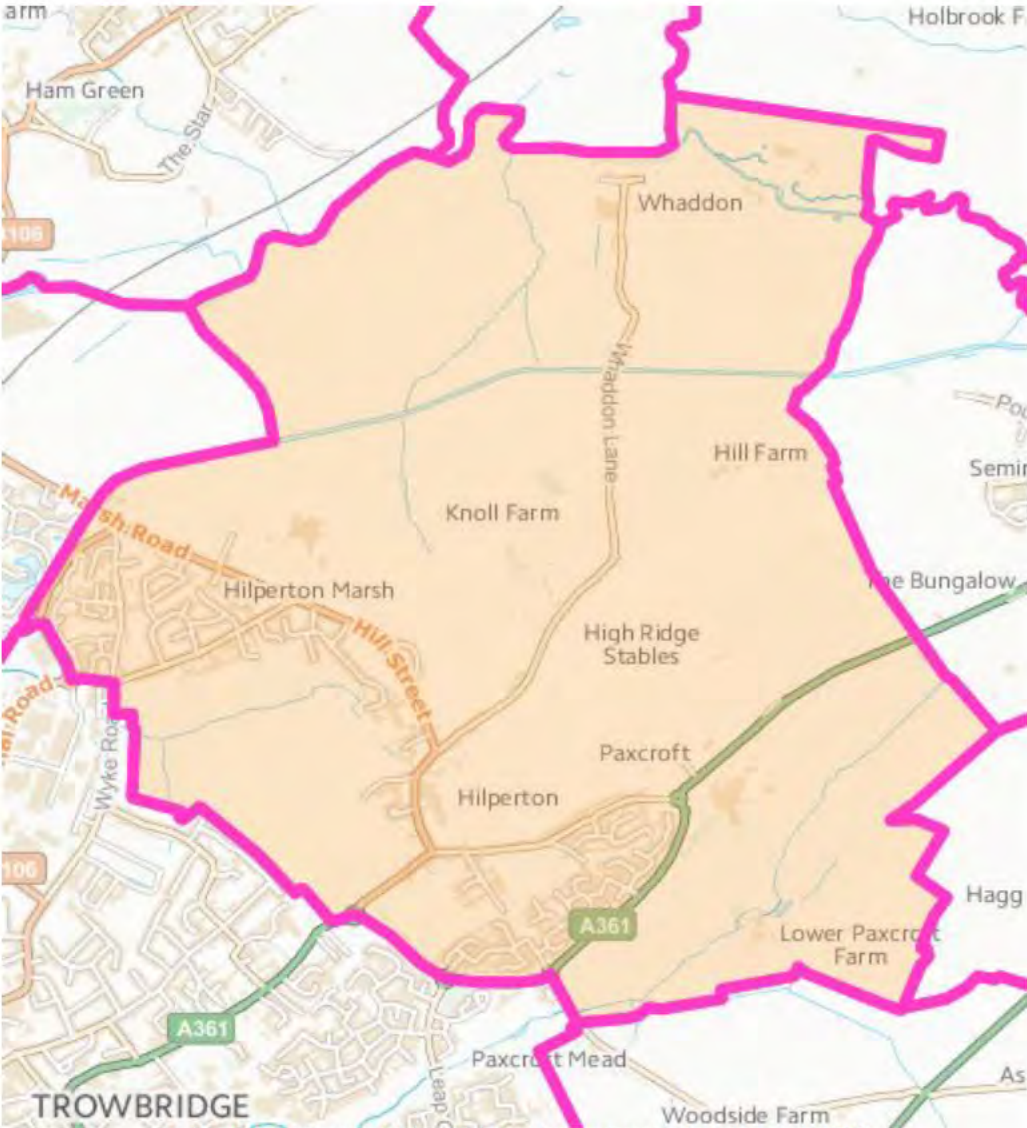
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Hilperton Parish Council	9.52	11.11	12.69	14.28	17.45	20.63	23.80	28.56
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

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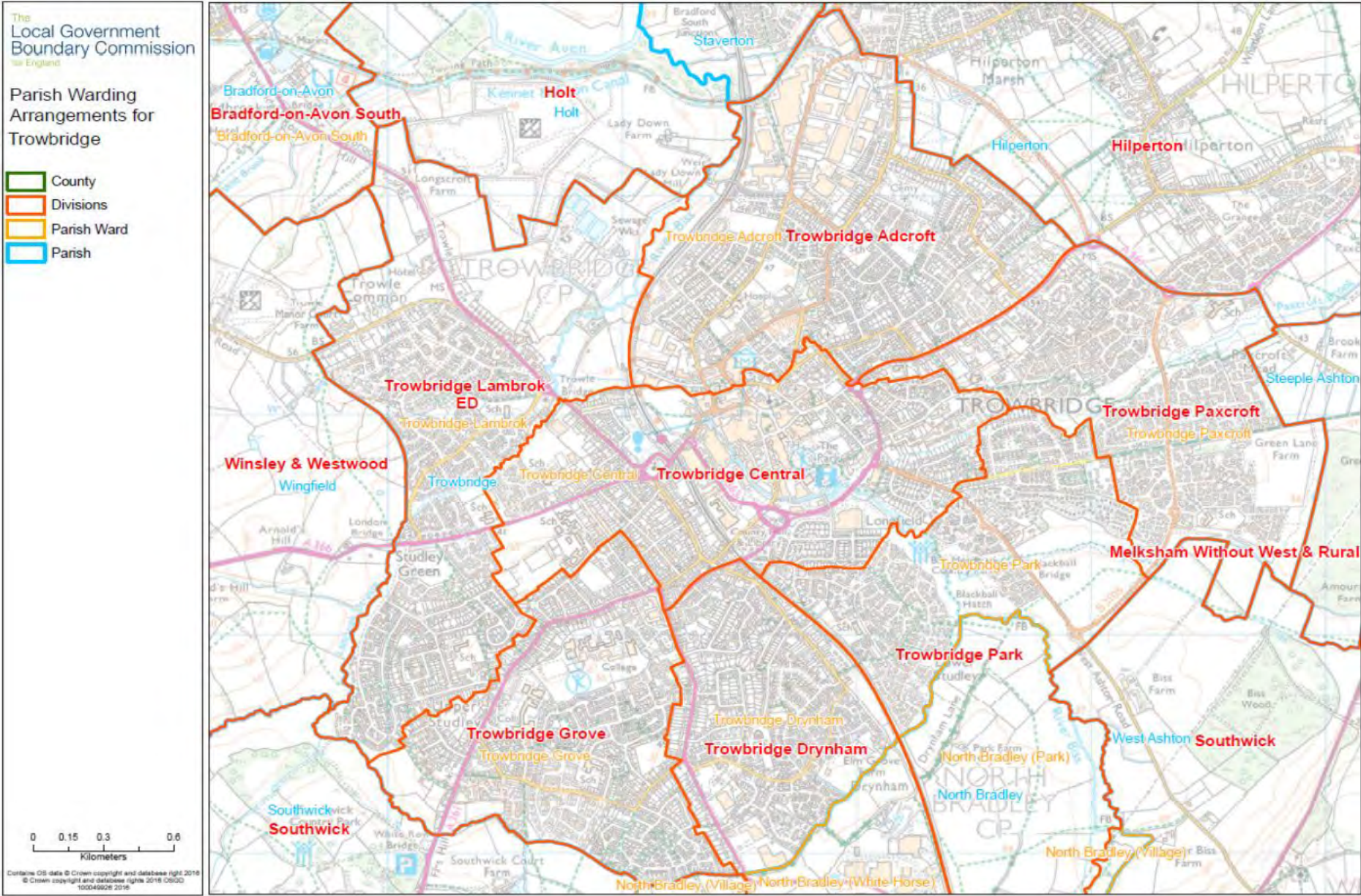
*As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.*

**Map of Hilperton Parish (2021)**

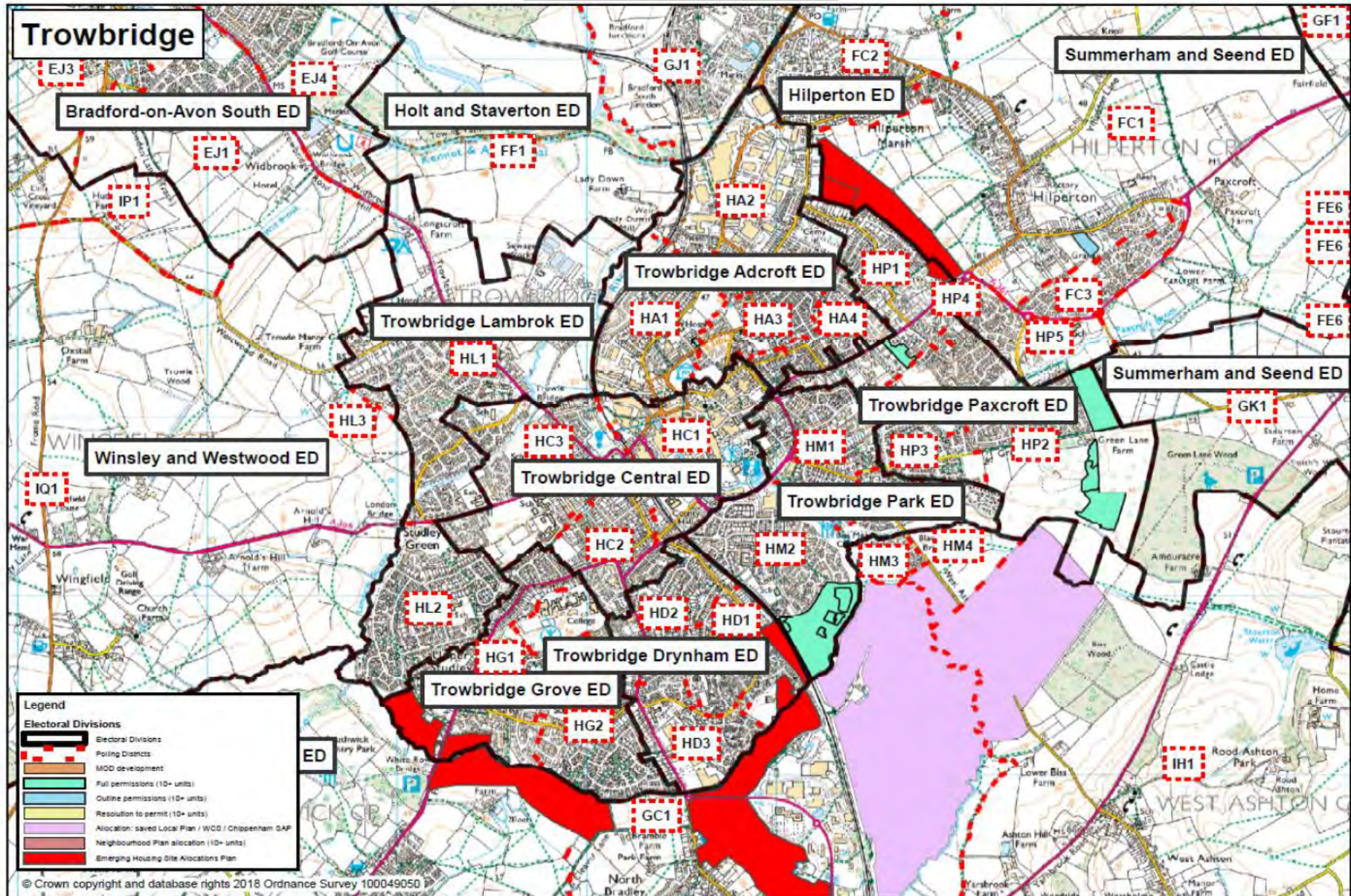


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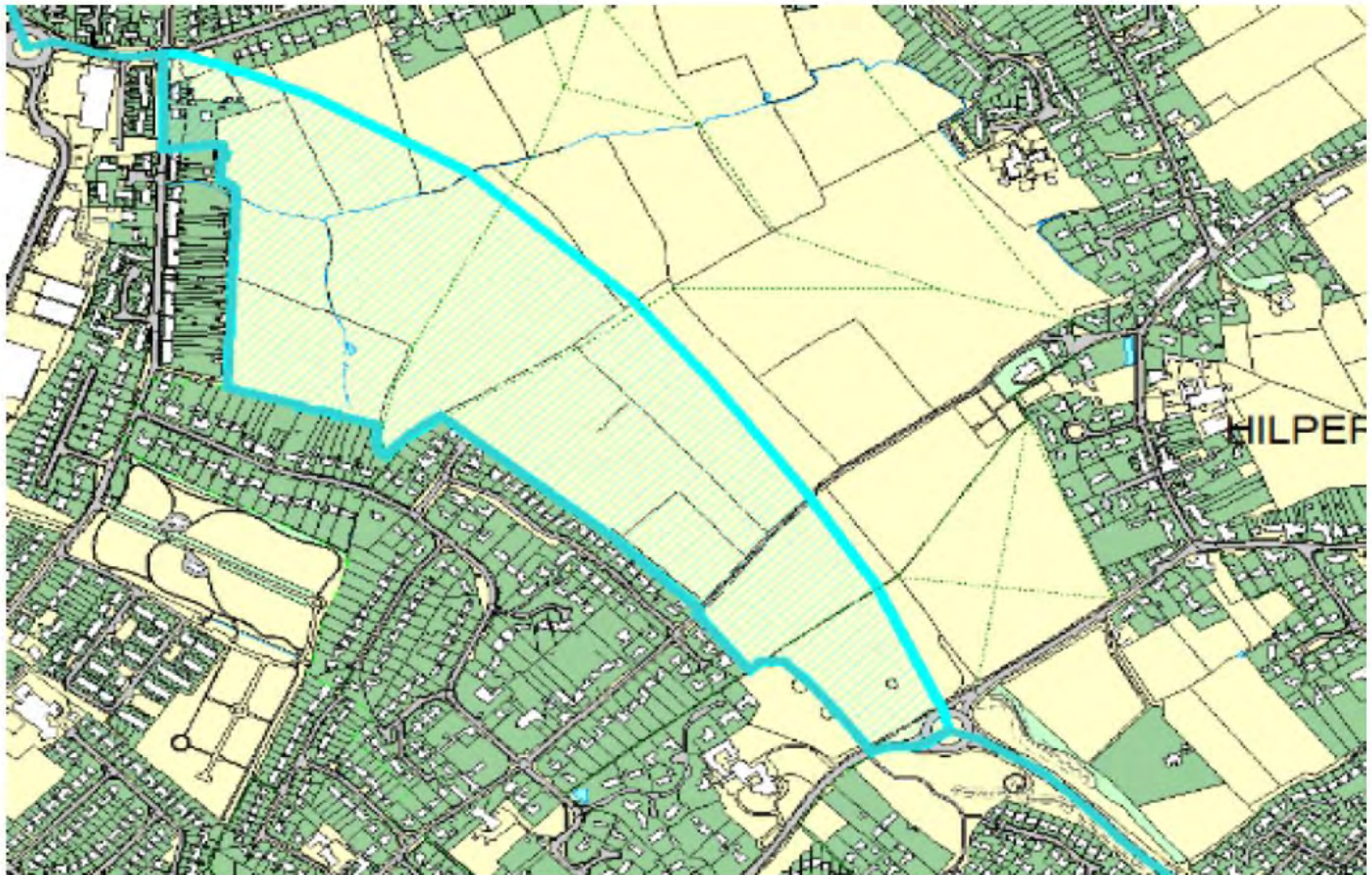
**Map of Trowbridge Town Parish (2021)**



## Proposed Development Map



Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Map



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 14: Trowbridge 2

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

(Area 2) Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension from West Ashton CP to Trowbridge TC

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Trowbridge Town Council, the proposer of the Scheme](#)

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of West Ashton Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 361**

**Electorate of Area 2 1 Oct 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Area 2 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 0**

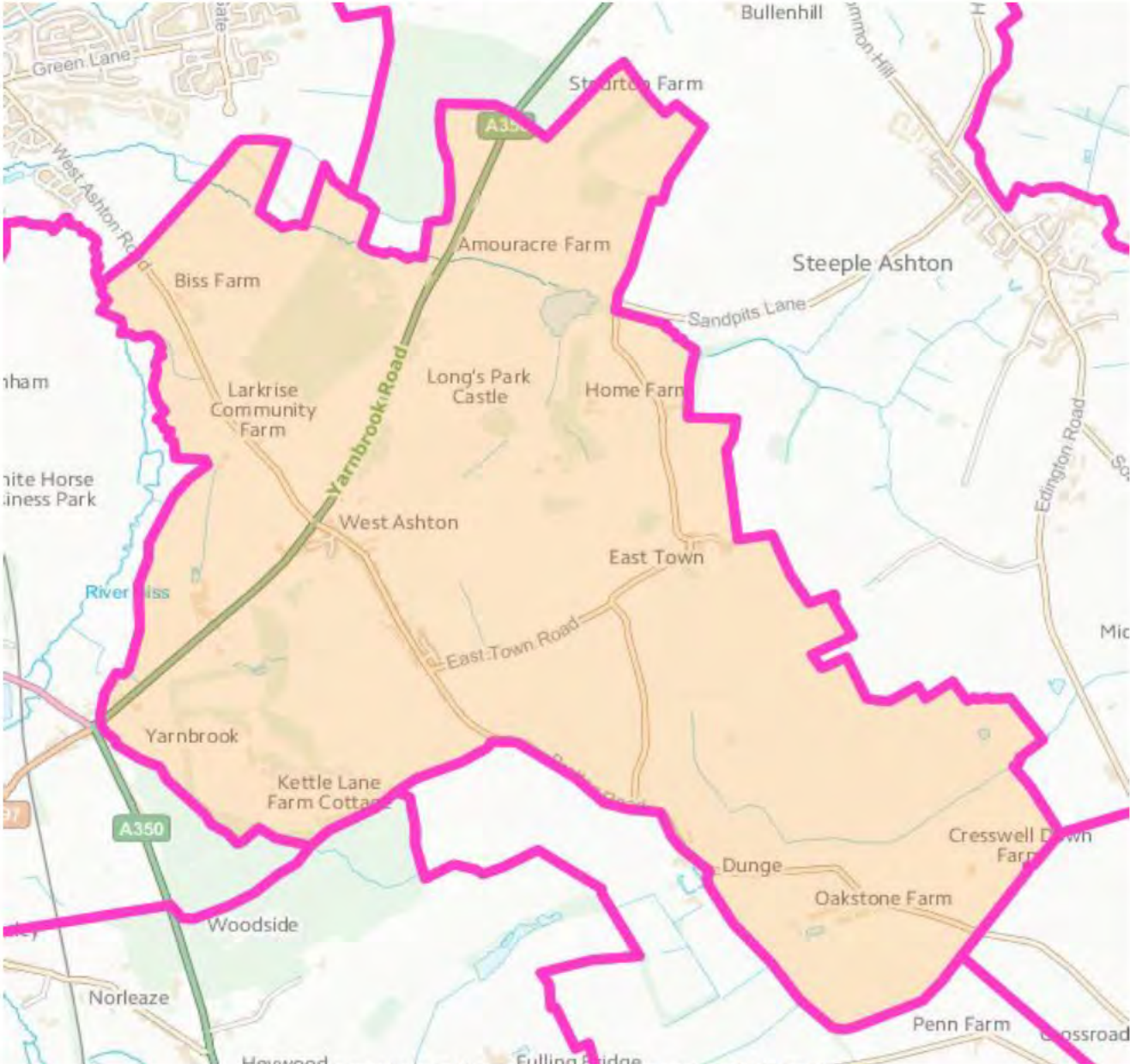
**Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts**

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
West Ashton Parish Council	20.66	24.10	27.55	30.99	37.88	44.76	51.65	61.98
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

Map of West Ashton Parish (2021)



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Map of Trowbridge Town Parish (2021)

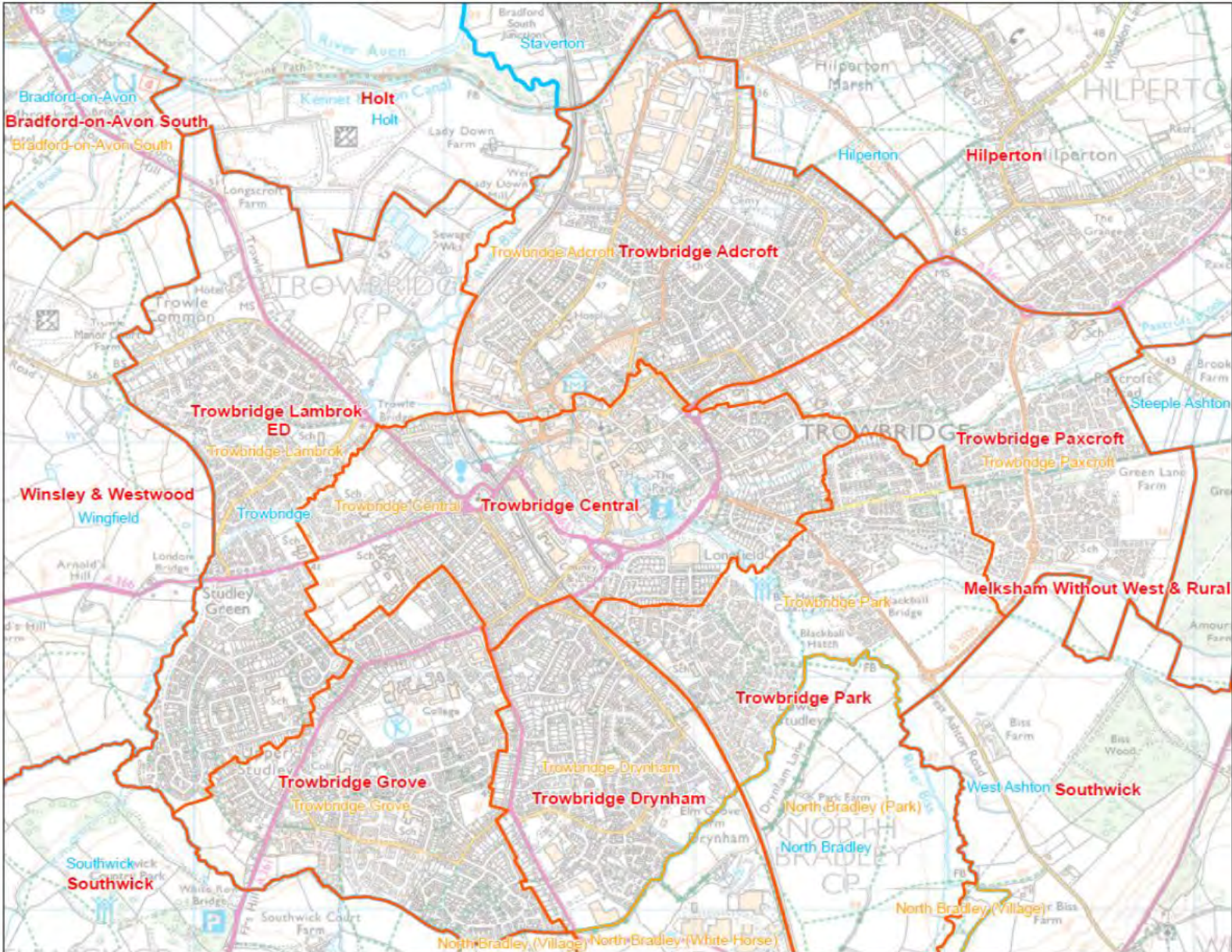
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Trowbridge

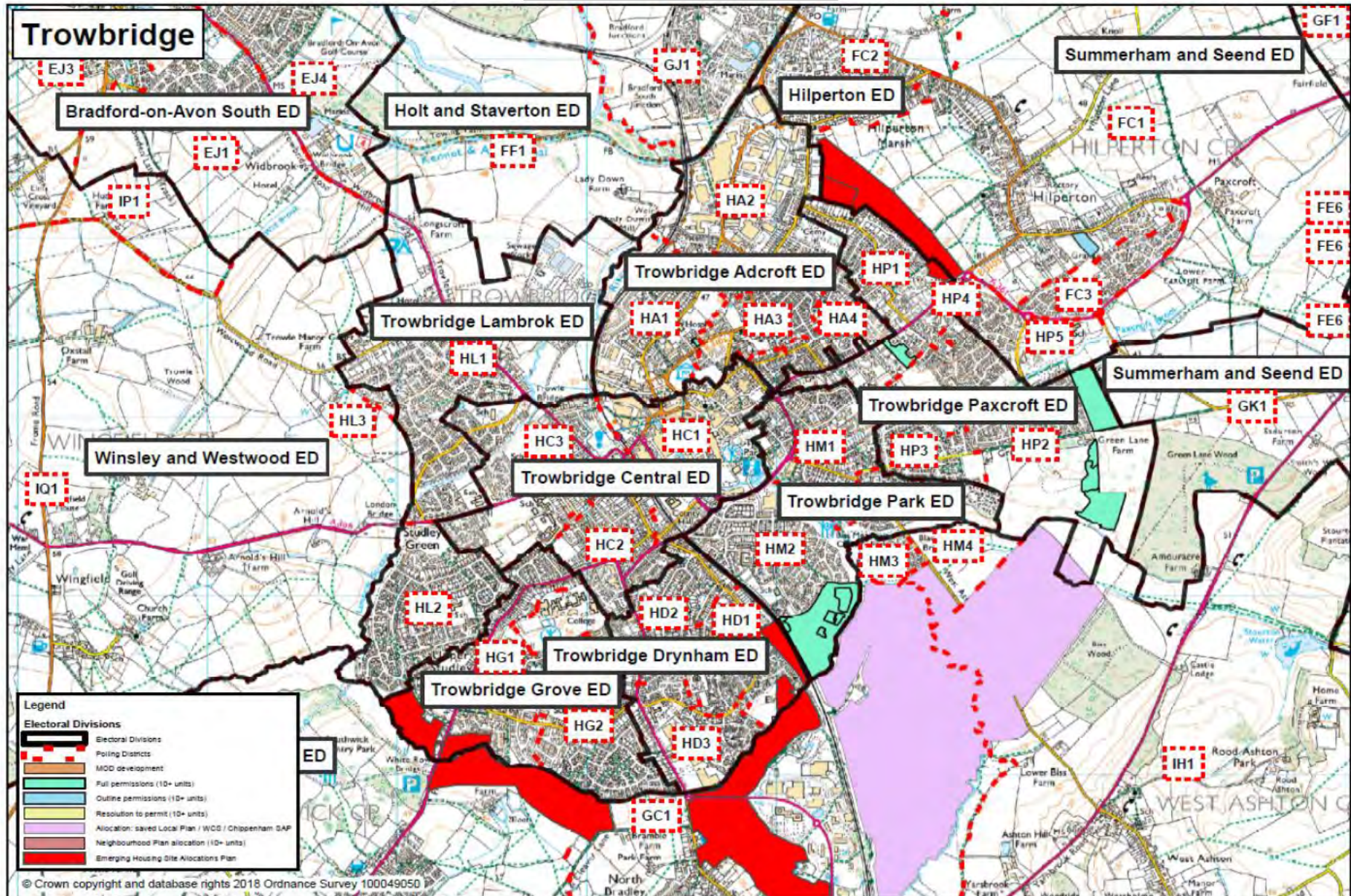
- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish

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Kilometers

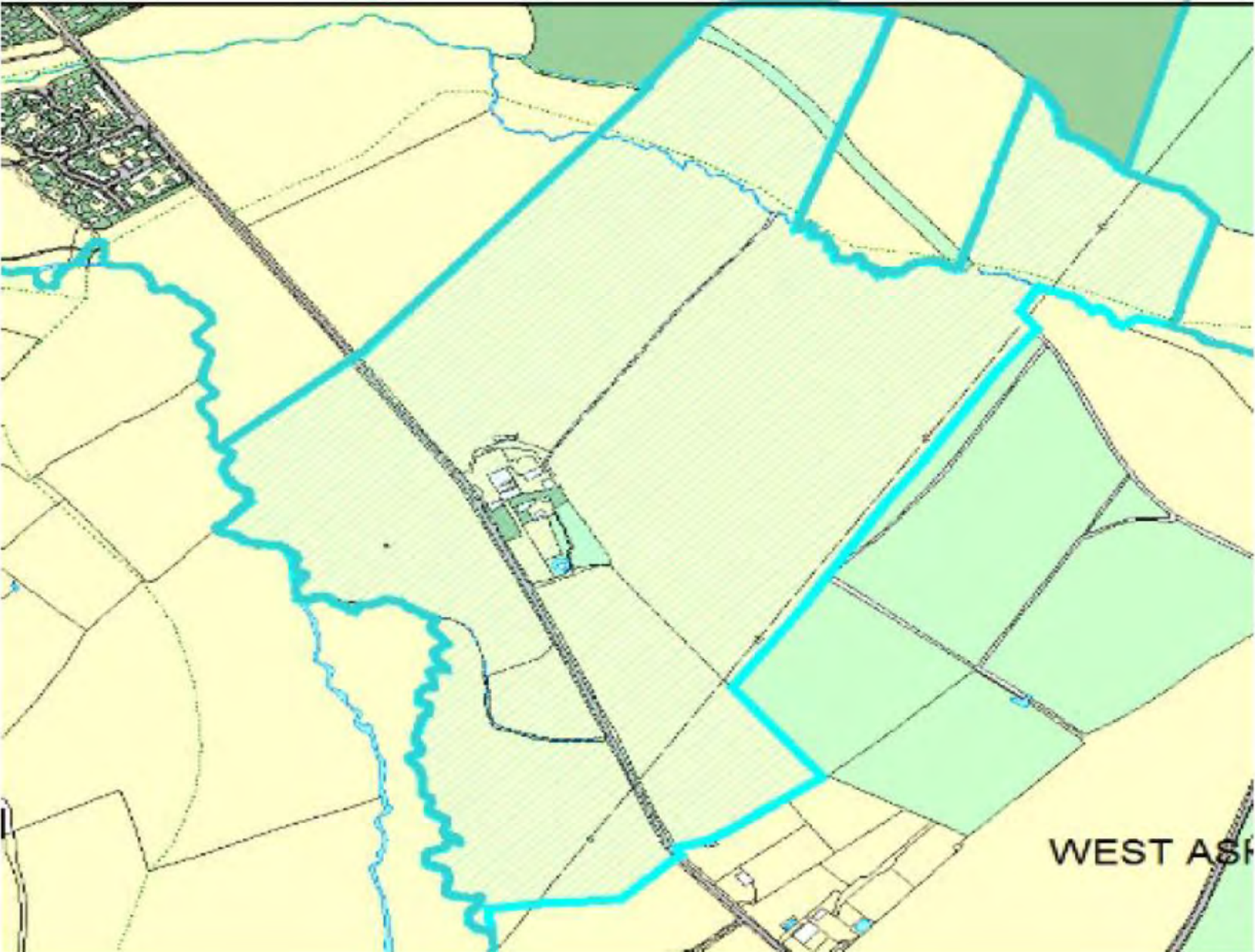
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## Proposed Development Map



Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Map



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 15: Trowbridge 3

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

(Area 3) Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension, Elm Grove/Drynham Lane and White Horse Business Park from North Bradley CP to Trowbridge TC

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Trowbridge Town Council, the proposer of the Scheme.](#)

**Electorate of North Bradley Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 1398**

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of Area 3 1 Oct 2019 – 8**

**Electorate of Area 3 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 476**

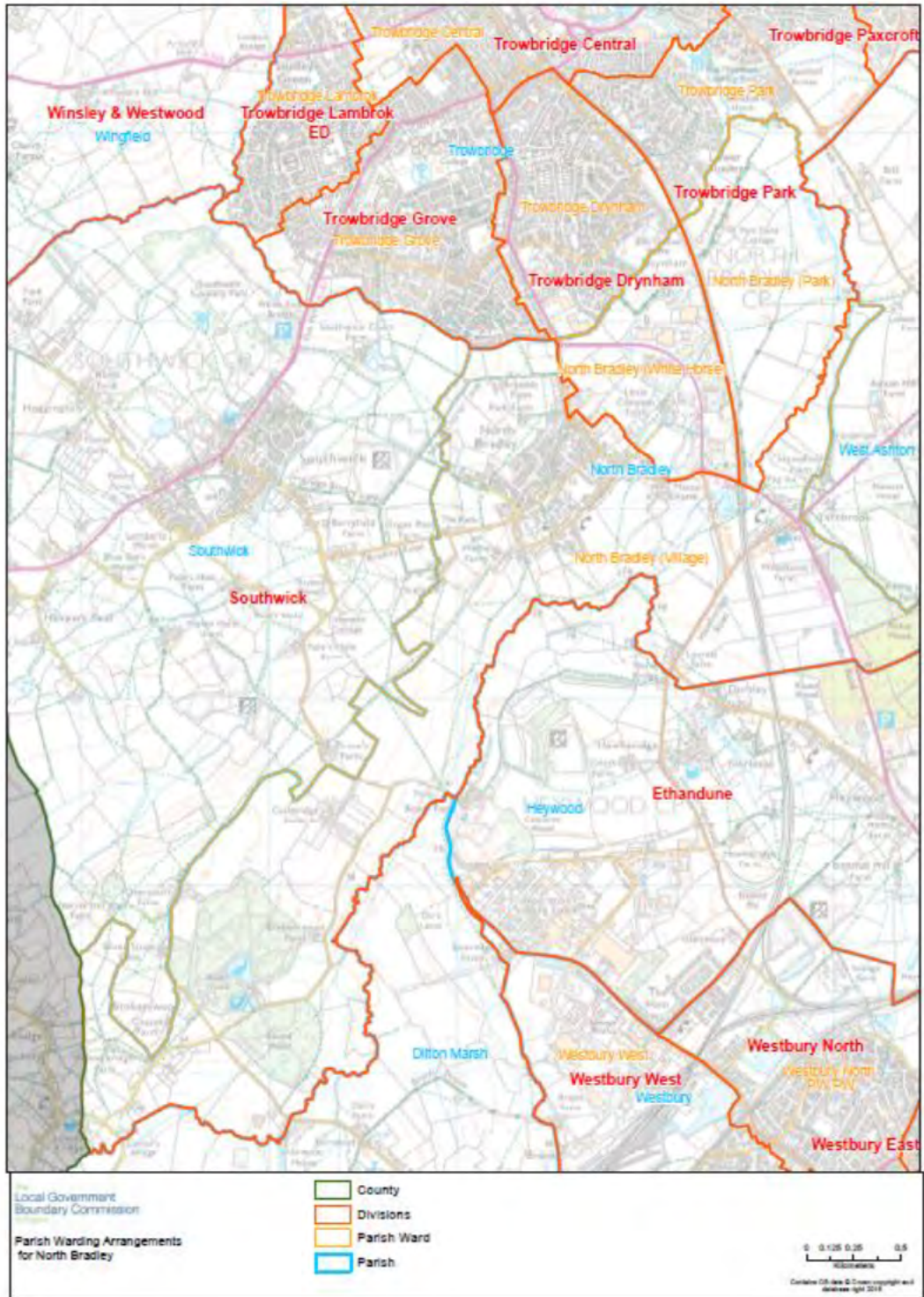
#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
North Bradley Parish Council	13.53	15.78	18.04	20.29	24.80	29.31	33.82	40.58
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

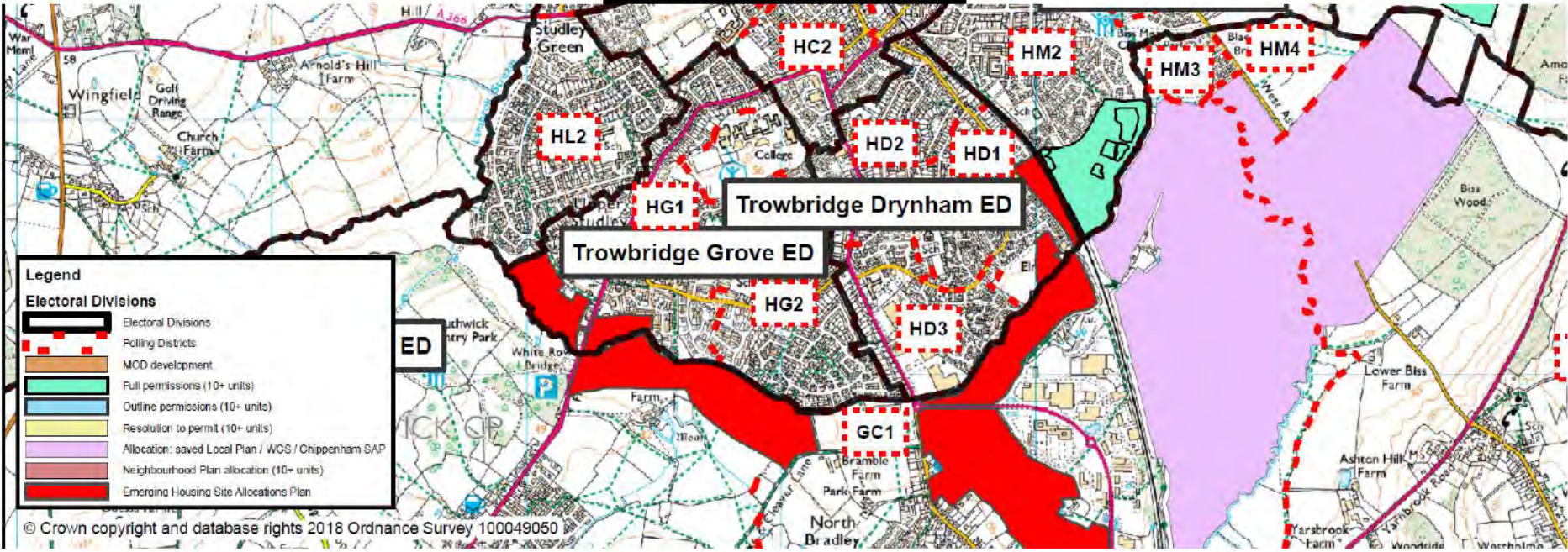
## Map of North Bradley Parish (2021)



Map of Trowbridge Town Parish (2021)



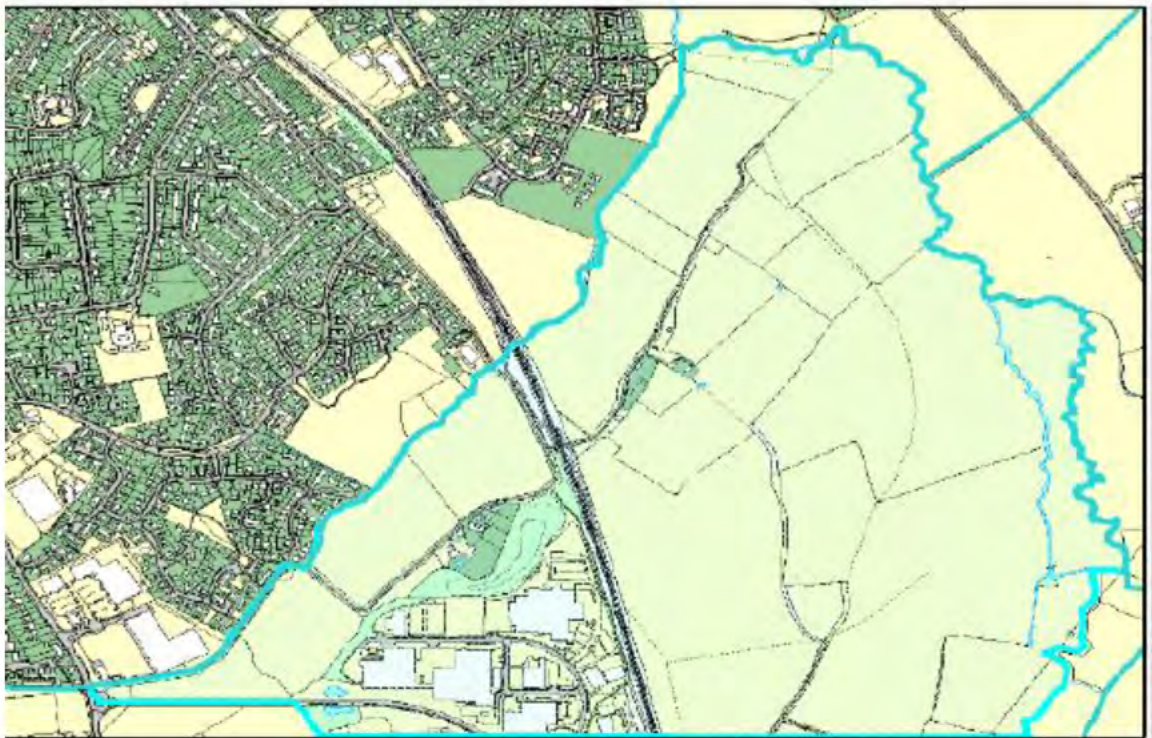
Proposed Development Map



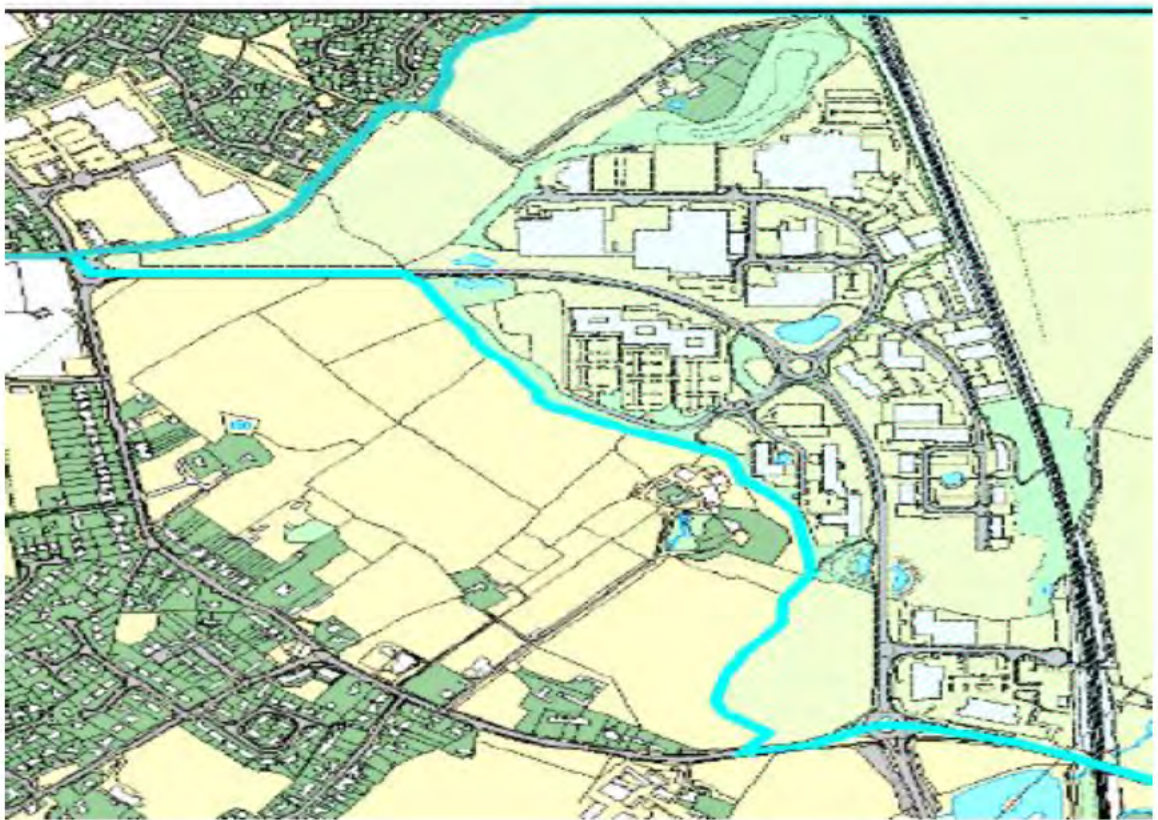
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Trowbridge Town Council Proposal Map



ed in the Ashton Park Urban Extension, Elm Grove (Dorchester Lane and White Horse Business Park



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 16: Trowbridge 4

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

(Area 4) Land in the Southwick Court allocation from North Bradley CP to Trowbridge TC

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Trowbridge Town Council, the proposer of the Scheme.](#)

**Electorate of North Bradley Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 1398**

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of Area 4 1 Oct 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Area 4 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 0**

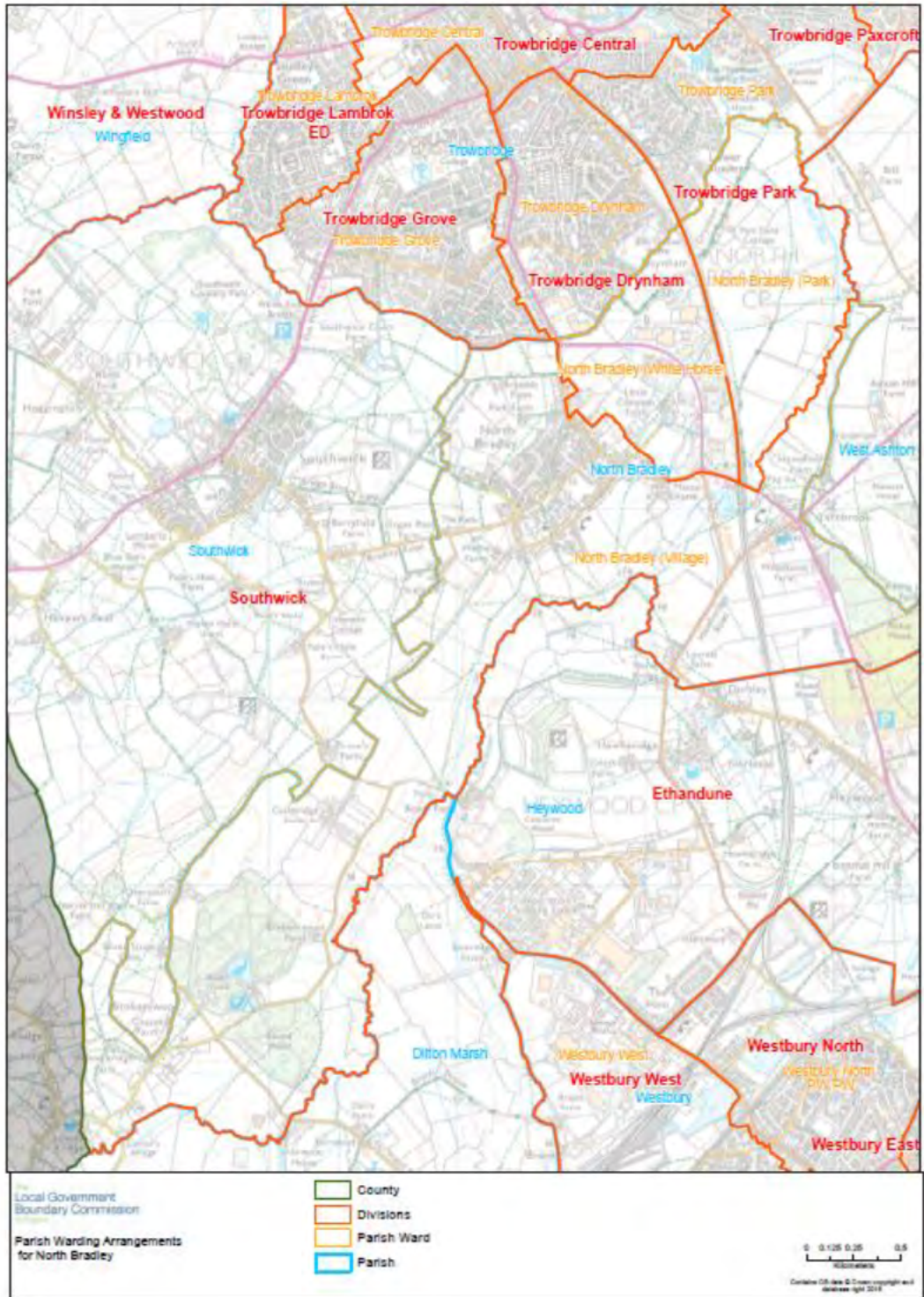
#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
North Bradley Parish Council	13.53	15.78	18.04	20.29	24.80	29.31	33.82	40.58
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of North Bradley Parish (2021)

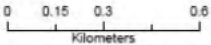
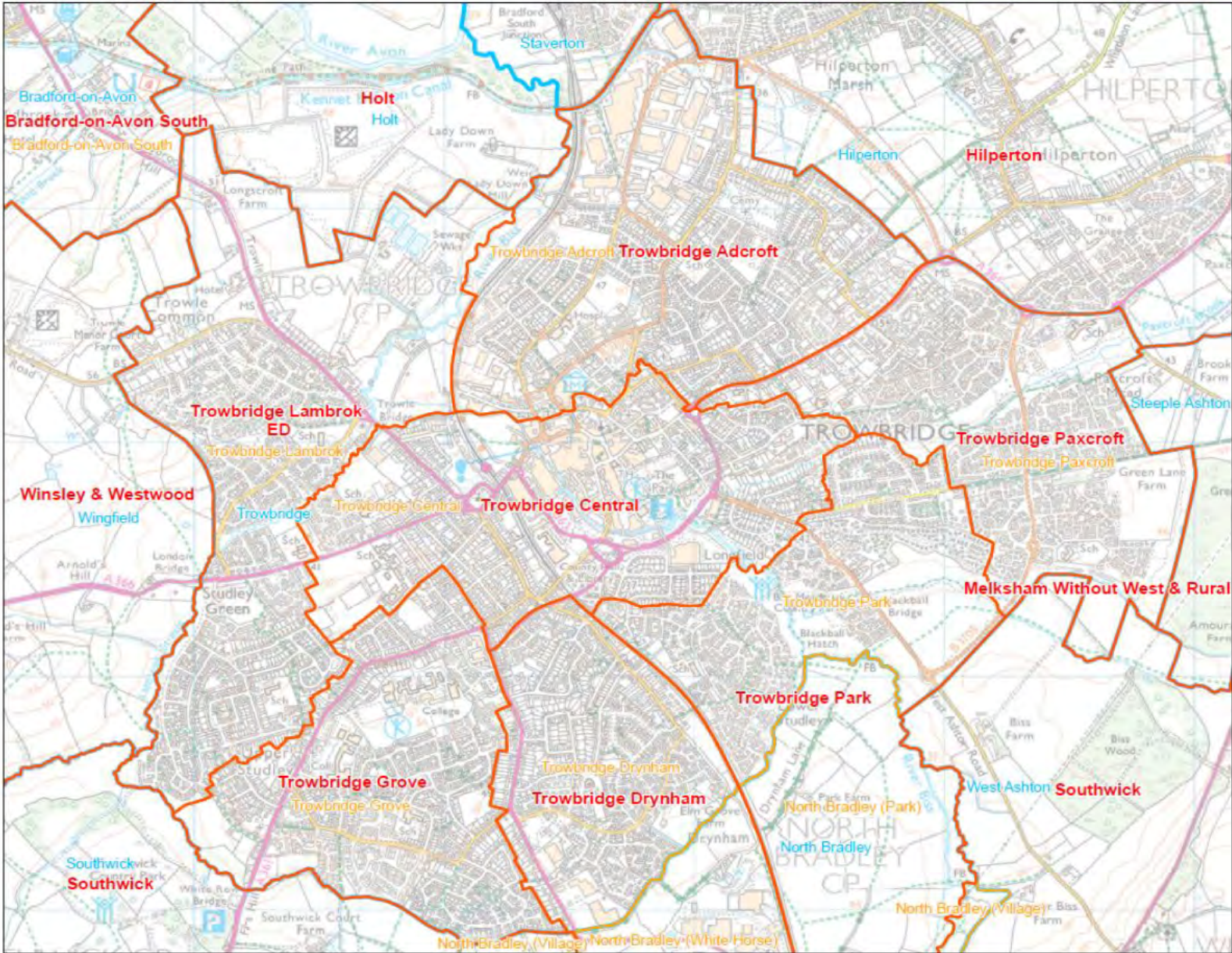


Map of Trowbridge Town Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

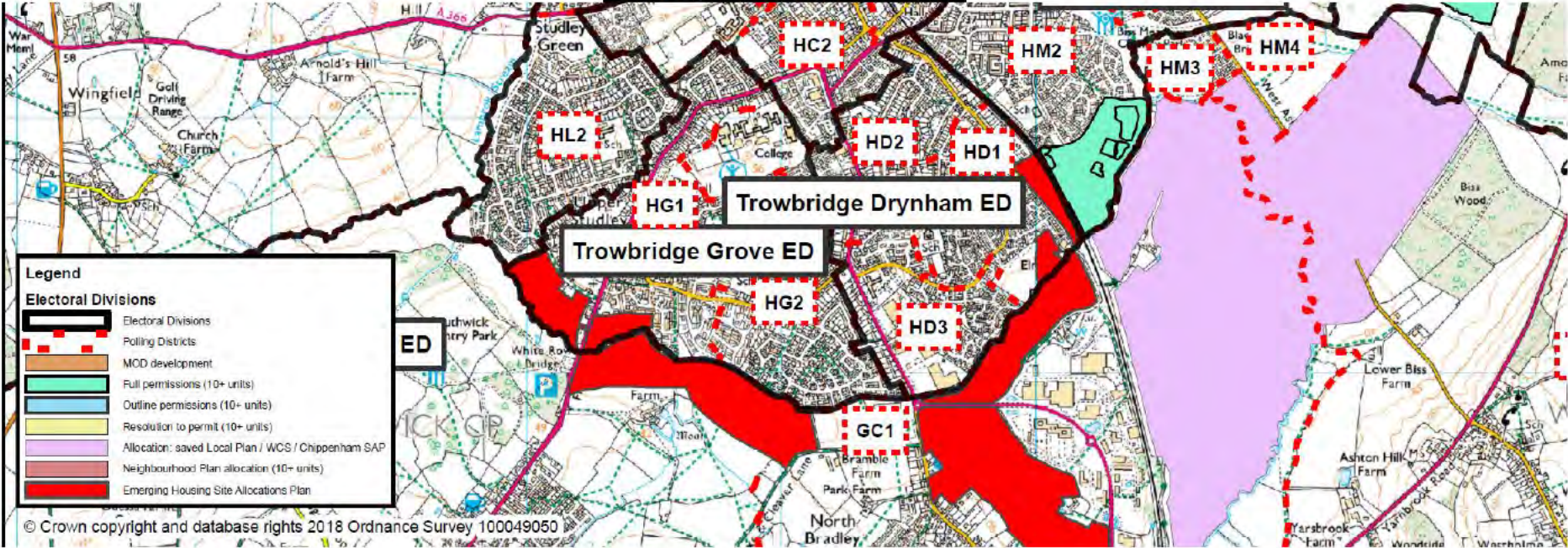
Parish Warding Arrangements for Trowbridge

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish



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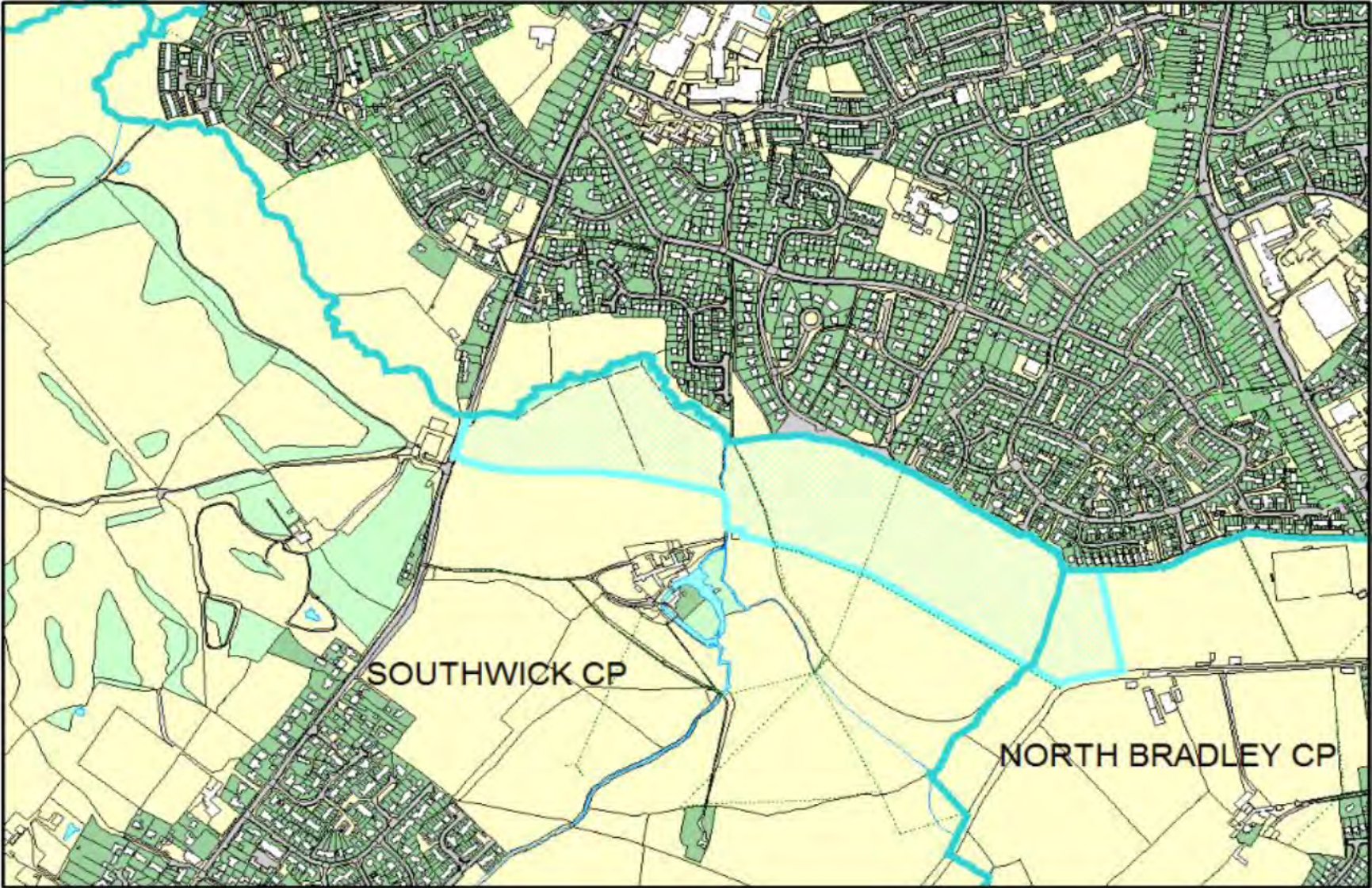
Proposed Development Map



Trowbridge Town Proposal Map

Area 4. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from North Bradley CP &

Area 5. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from Southwick CP.



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 17: Trowbridge 5

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

(Area 5) Land in the Southwick Court allocation from Southwick CP to Trowbridge TC

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Trowbridge Town Council, the proposer of the Scheme.](#)

**Electorate of Southwick Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 1626**

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of Area 5 1 Oct 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Area 5 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 277**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

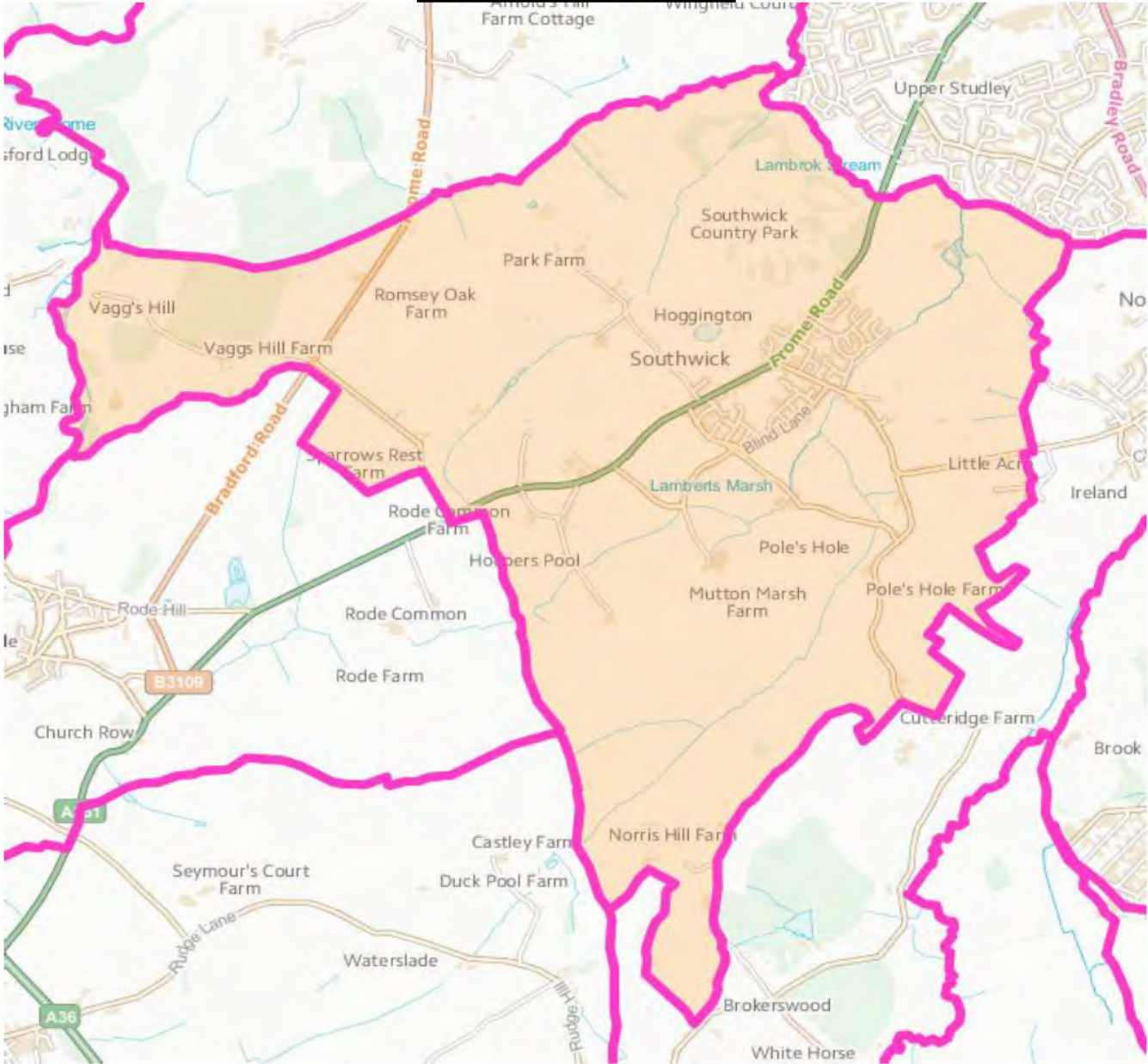
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Southwick Parish Council	19.37	22.59	25.82	29.05	35.51	41.96	48.42	58.10
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

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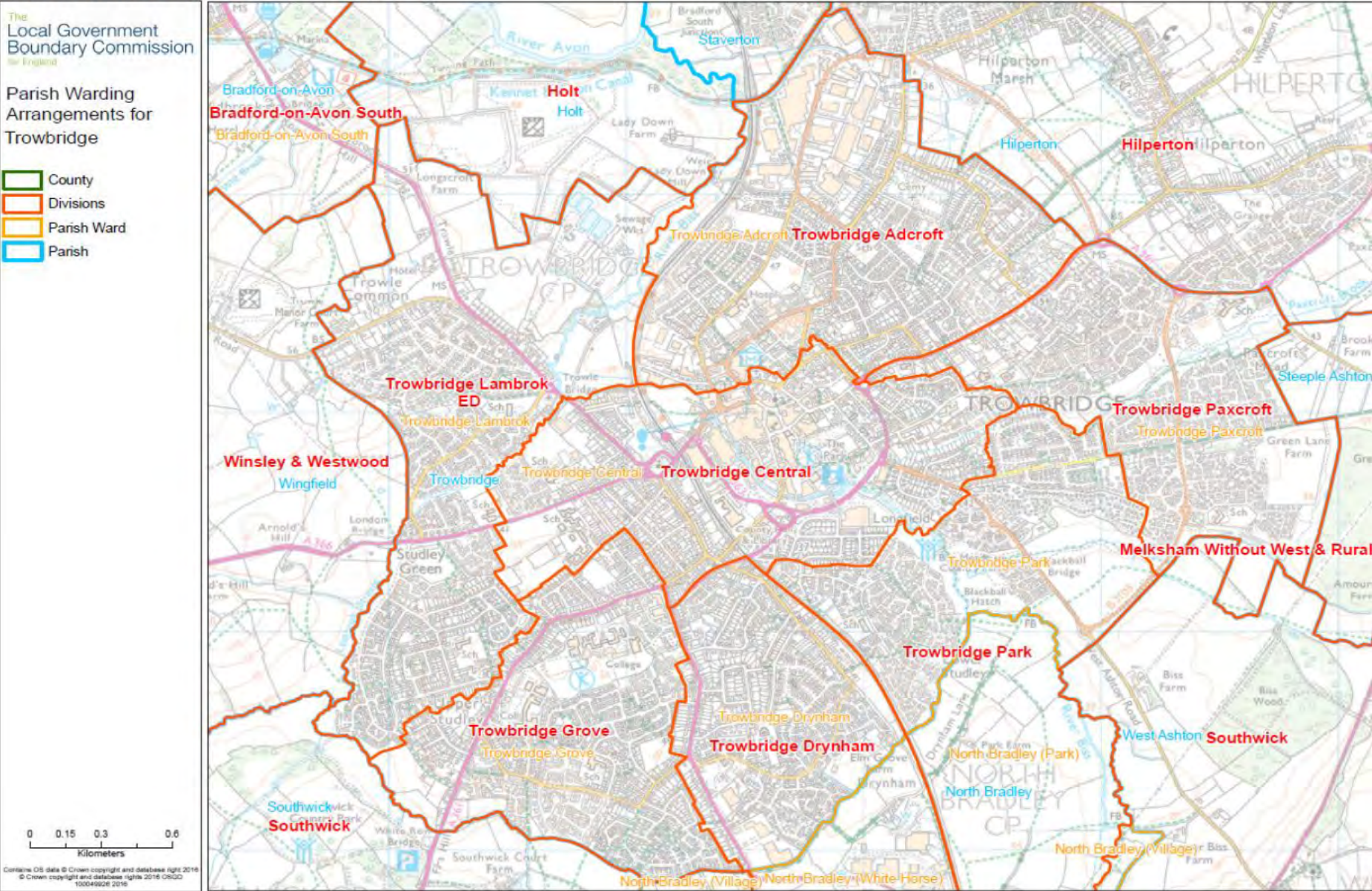
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

**Southwick Parish (2021)**

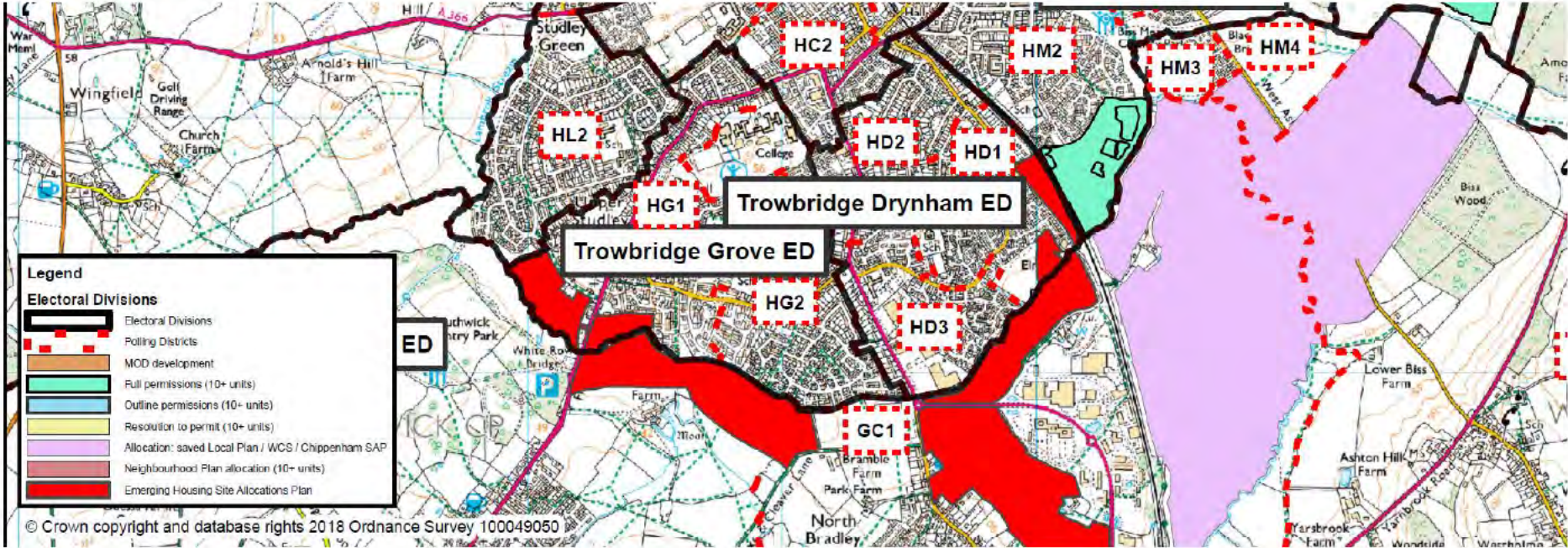


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Map of Trowbridge Town Parish (2021)



**Proposed Development Map**



Trowbridge Town Proposal Map

Area 4. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from North Bradley CP &

Area 5. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from Southwick CP.



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 24: Melksham Merger

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposals

Merger Proposal A: That there is a full amalgamation of both Melksham Town and Melksham Without (preferred option of Melksham Town Council)

Merger Proposal B: Or an amalgamation of Melksham Town and Melksham Without, but creating a new parish of Shaw and Whitley, which is currently within the parish of Melksham Without. (Secondary option of Melksham Town Council)

#### Wiltshire Council additions

Merger Proposal C: Or an amalgamation of Melksham Town and Melksham Without, but creating a new parish of Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre, which is currently within the parish of Melksham Without. (Suggested during Stage 1 of the CGR)

Merger Proposal D: Or an amalgamation of Melksham Town and Melksham Without, but creating a new parish of Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre, and Blackmore Ward, which is currently within the parish of Melksham Without. (Suggested during Stage 1 of the CGR)

Depending on which if any proposals are recommended, to consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the unitary Divisions if appropriate.

#### Reason

[Reasoning of Melksham Town Council, proposer of Proposals A and B](#) (Option C in the link aligns to Schemes 9 and 10)

[Reasoning of a member of the public, proposer of Proposal C](#)

[Reasoning of a member of the public, proposer of Proposal D](#)

**Electorate of Melksham Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 13151**

**Electorate of Melksham Without Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 5459**

**Electorate of Shaw and Whitley (Proposal B) area 1 Oct 2019 – 1091**

**Electorate of Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre (Proposal C) area 1 Oct 2019 – 1371**

**Electorate of Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre and Blackmore (Proposal D) area 1 Oct 2019 – 1724**

**Electorate of Melksham Town Parish 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> - 13948**

**Electorate of Melksham Without Parish 2024 (projected) - 7439**

**Electorate of Shaw and Whitley (Proposal B) area 2024 (projected) - 1141**

**Electorate of Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre (Proposal C) area 2024 (projected) - 1431**

**Electorate of Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre and Blackmore (Proposal D) area 2024 (projected) - 1946**

### **Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts**

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

<b>Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)</b>	<b>Band A (£)</b>	<b>Band B (£)</b>	<b>Band C (£)</b>	<b>Band D (£)</b>	<b>Band E (£)</b>	<b>Band F (£)</b>	<b>Band G (£)</b>	<b>Band H (£)</b>
<b>Melksham Without Parish Council</b>	<b>50.46</b>	<b>58.87</b>	<b>67.28</b>	<b>75.69</b>	<b>92.51</b>	<b>109.33</b>	<b>126.15</b>	<b>151.38</b>
<b>Melksham Town Council</b>	<b>102.09</b>	<b>119.10</b>	<b>136.12</b>	<b>153.13</b>	<b>187.16</b>	<b>221.19</b>	<b>255.22</b>	<b>306.26</b>

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<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

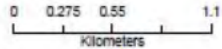
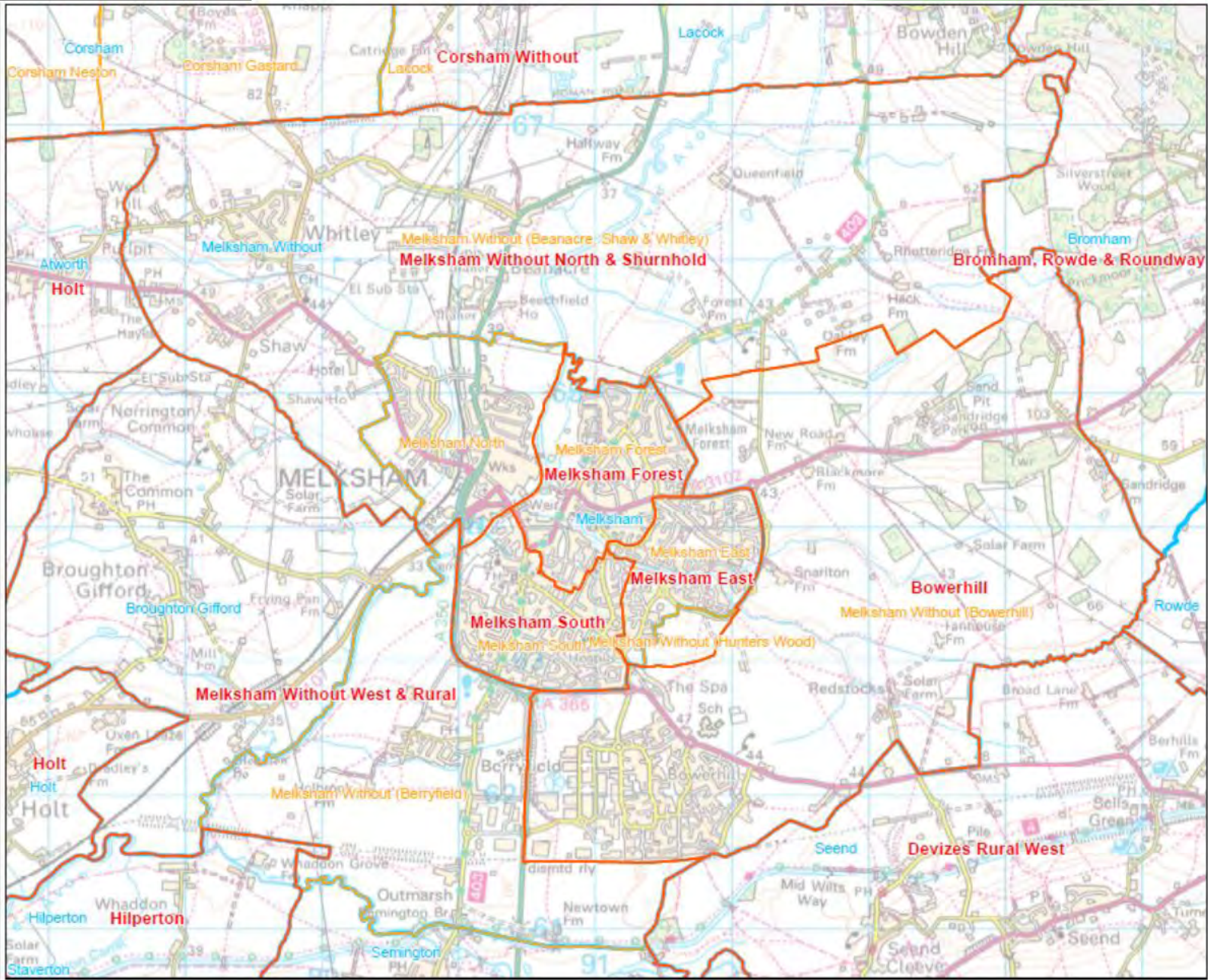


Map of Melksham Without Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Melksham Without

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish



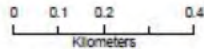
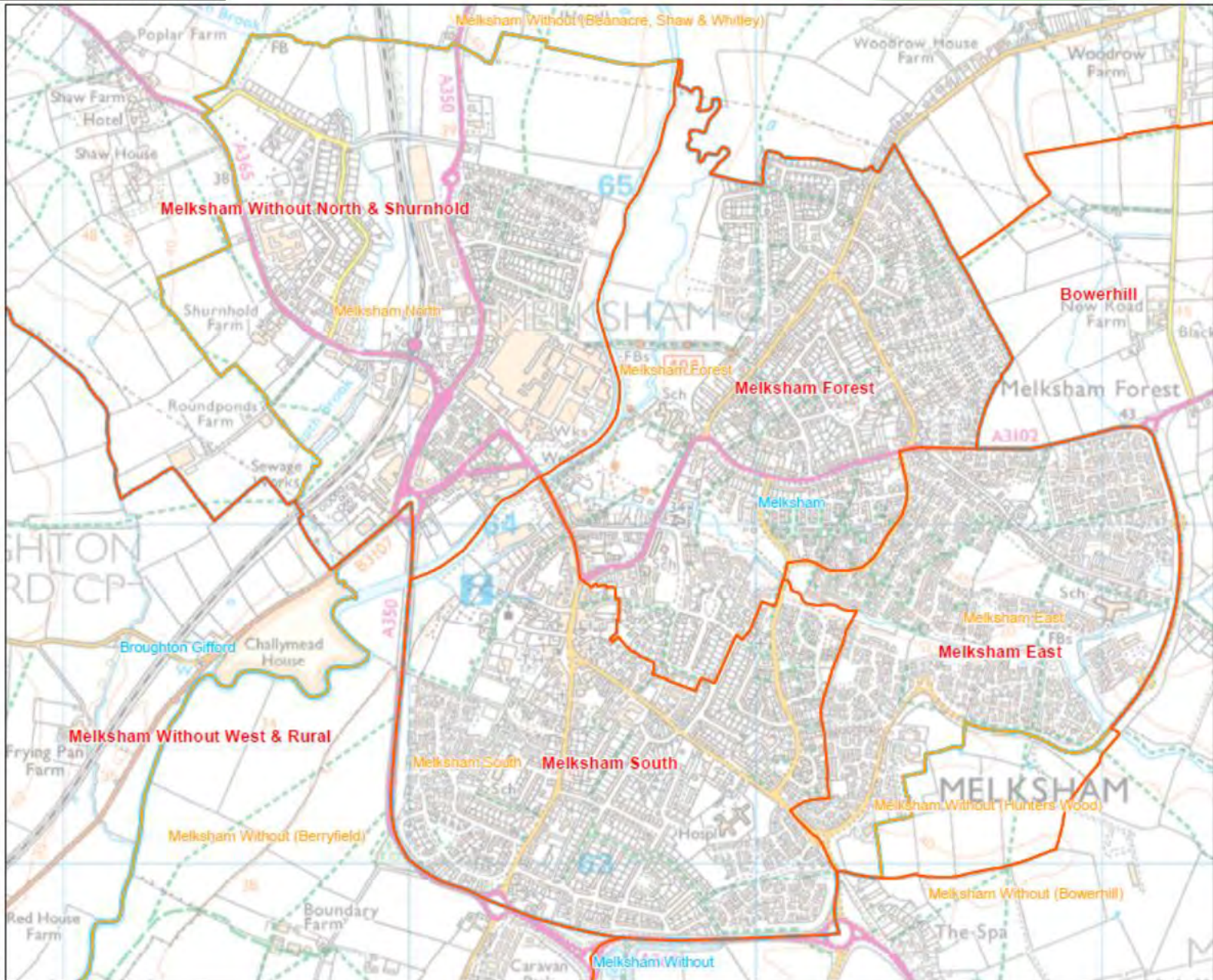
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Map of Melksham Town Parish (2021)

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Melksham

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish

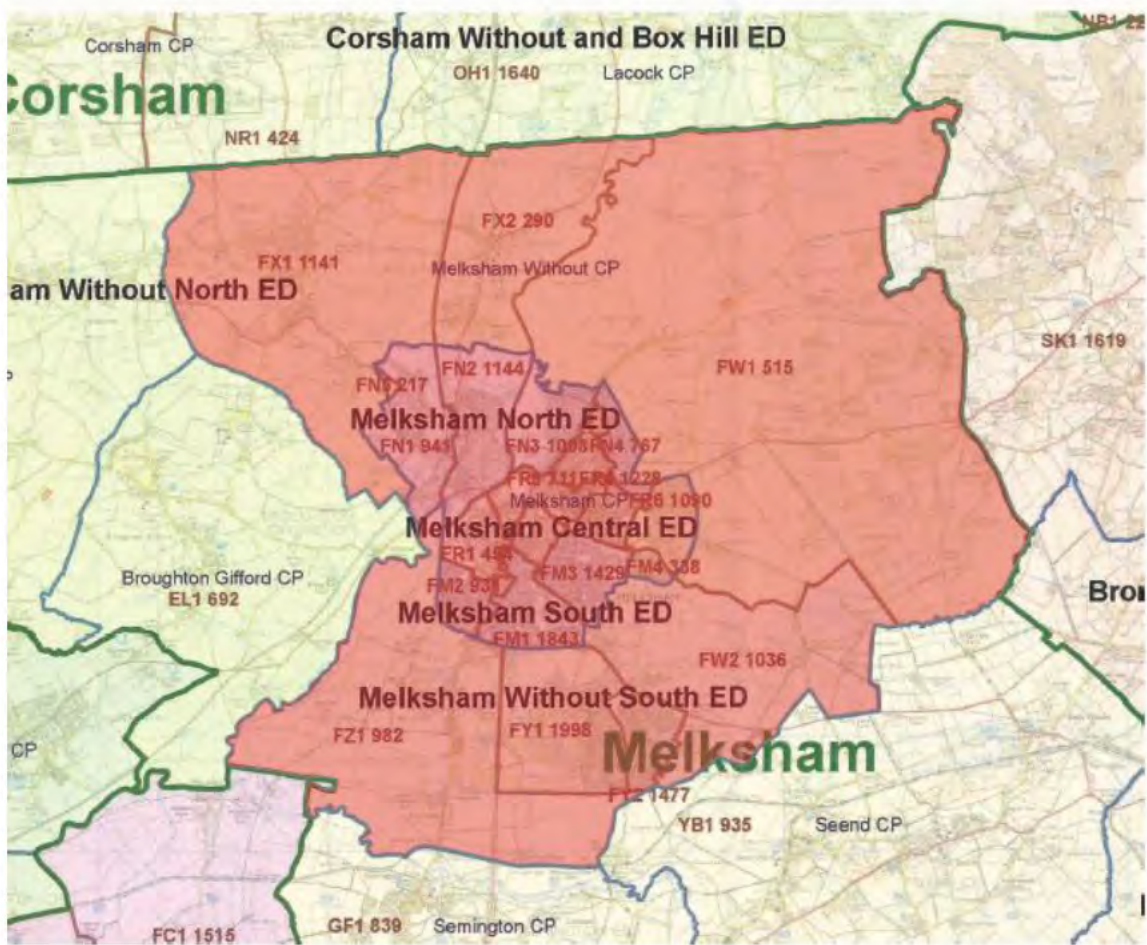


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Melksham Community Governance Review 2019

# Option A - Combine existing councils into a new Town Council

Page 91



Proposed new Melksham Town Council

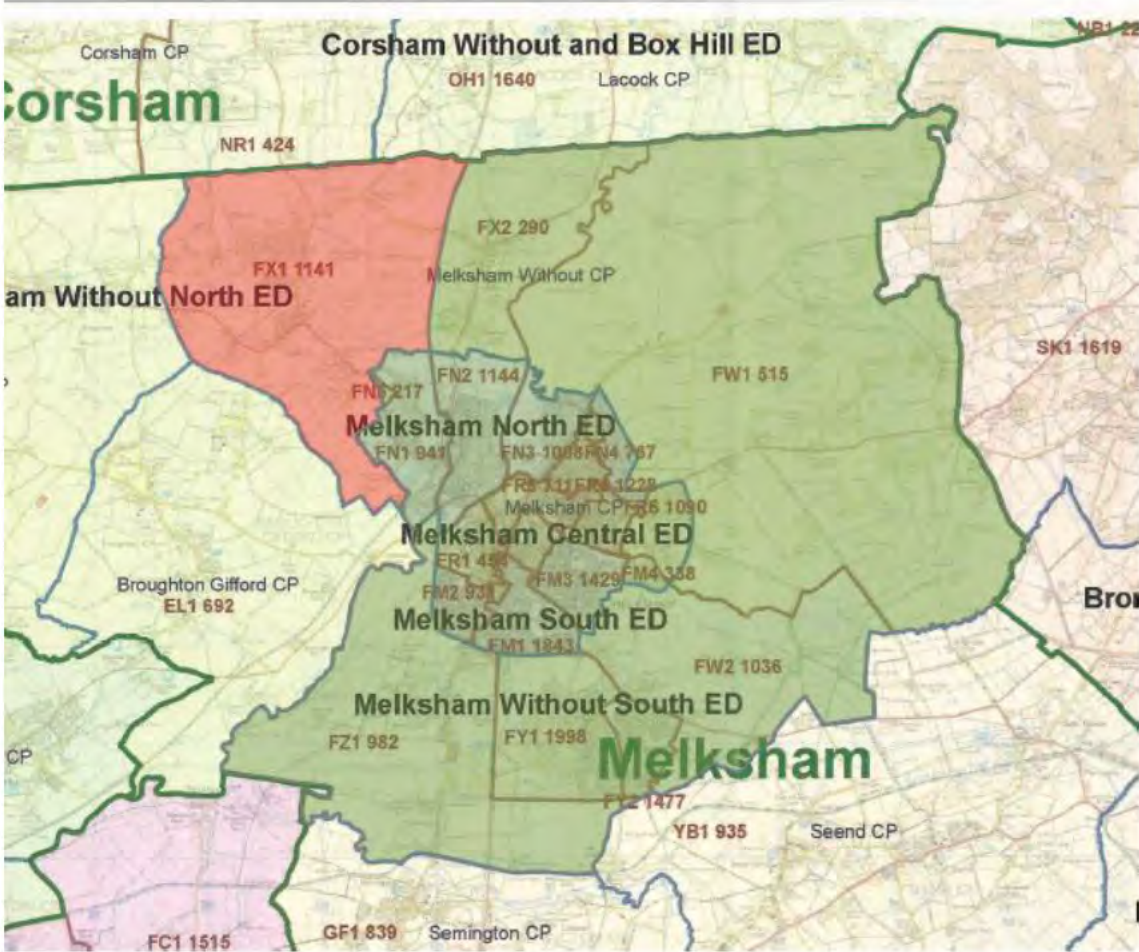


**Melksham Town Council**

Melksham Community Governance Review 2019

Option B - Combine existing councils and create new Town Council Shaw and Whitley Parish Council

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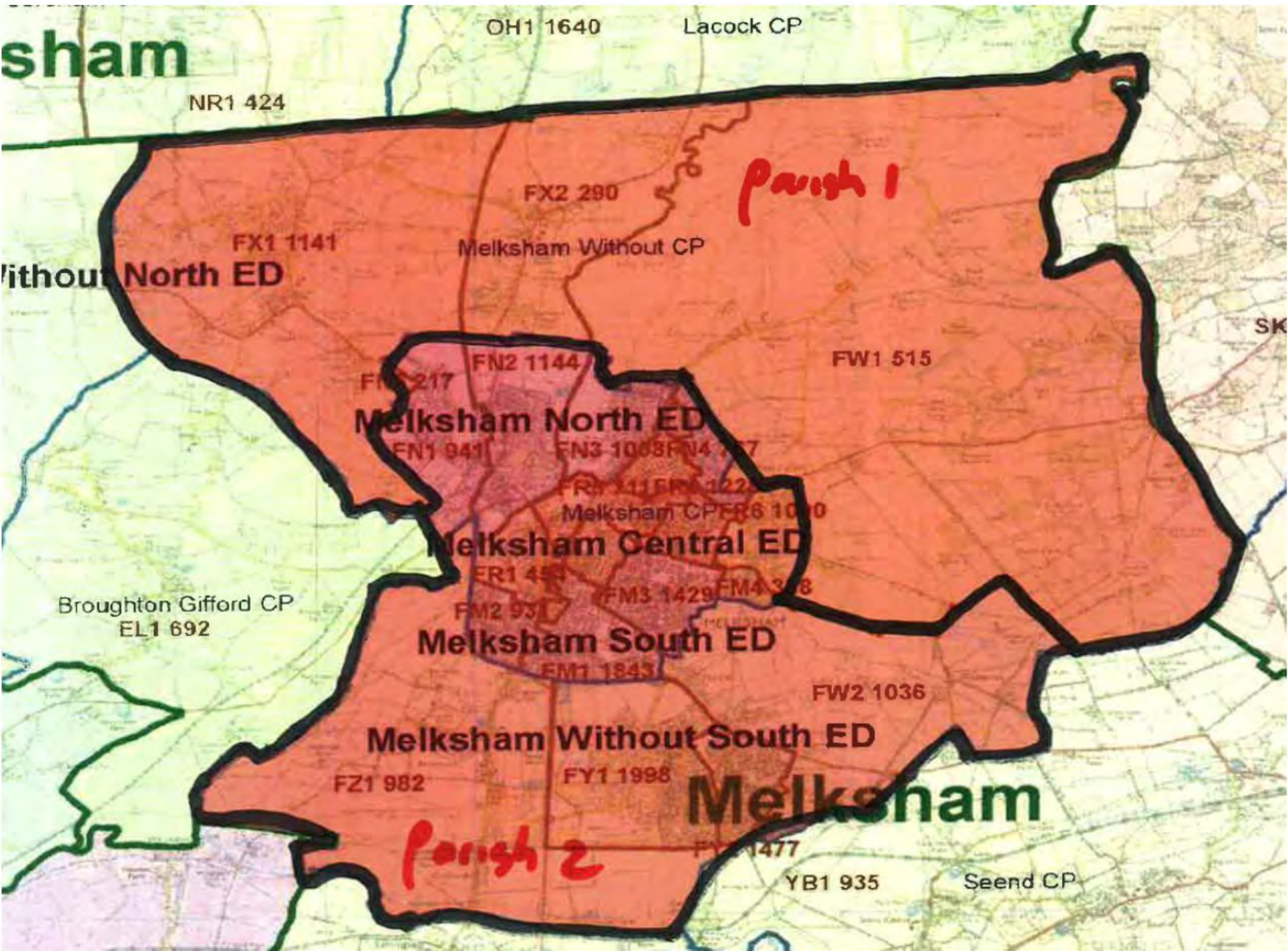
-  Proposed new Melksham Town Council
-  Proposed new Shaw and Whitley Parish Council



**Proposal C (Suggested during Stage 1 of the CGR)**

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Proposal D (Suggested during Stage 1 of the CGR)



# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 29: Calne Without

(Scheme 40 is a proposal for a new Parish covering this area)

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### **Proposal**

The Parish Council request two minor changes to move some properties from the Pewsham Ward to the West Ward of the Parish. The properties are at Studley Hill and Church Road and East side of Devizes Road, Derry Hill and are shown on the attached maps.

#### **Reason**

[Reasoning of Calne Without Parish Council, the proposer](#)

*(Wiltshire Council Note: As a result of decisions of the LGBCE, the wards of Calne Without have been amended, but the boundary between the West and Pewsham wards requested above remains the same)*

Map of Calne Without Parish

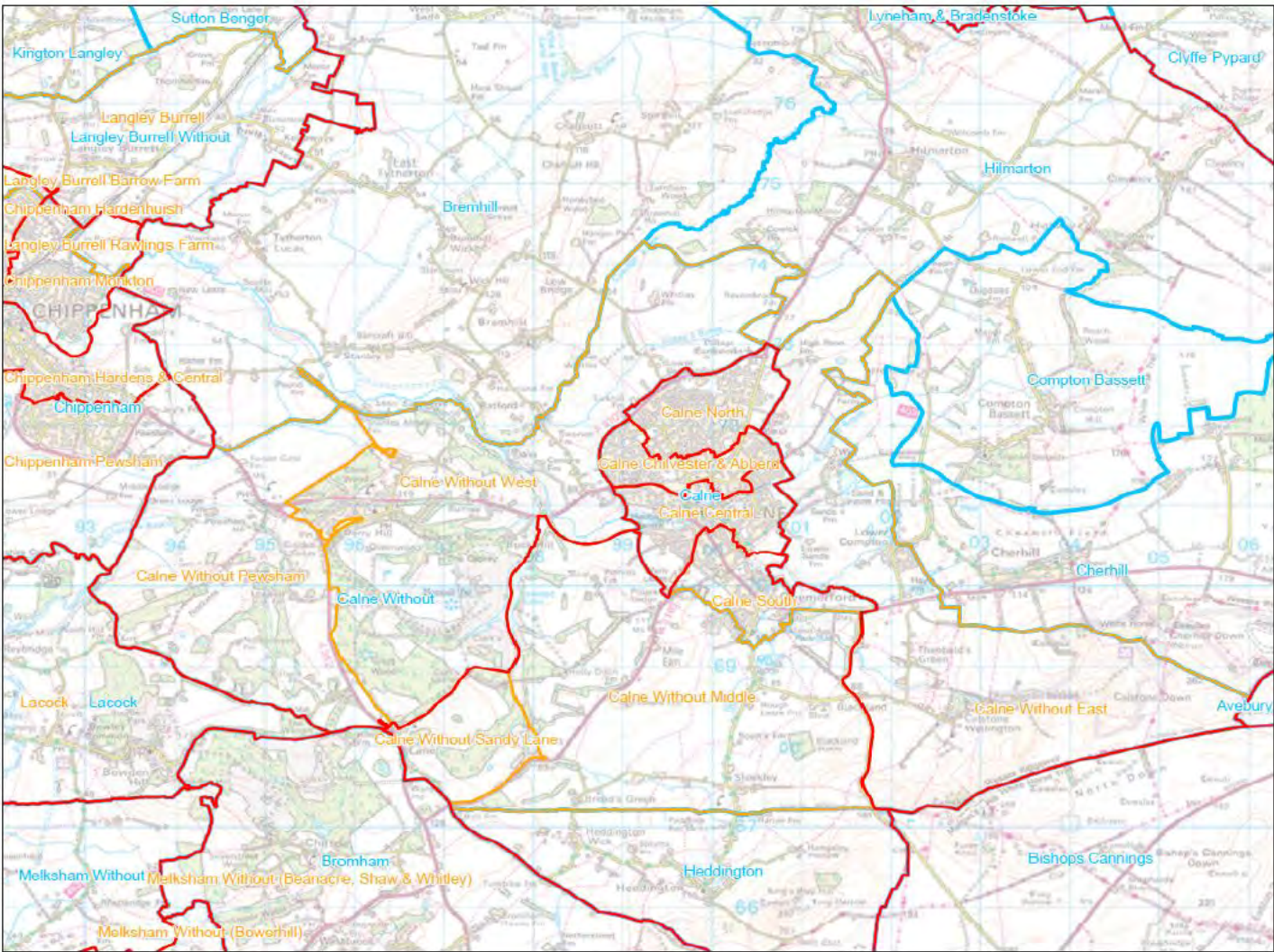
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Calne Without

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish

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Kilometers

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Boundary between Pewsham and West Wards



Page 97

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Map of proposed changes

Electoral Area Boundary

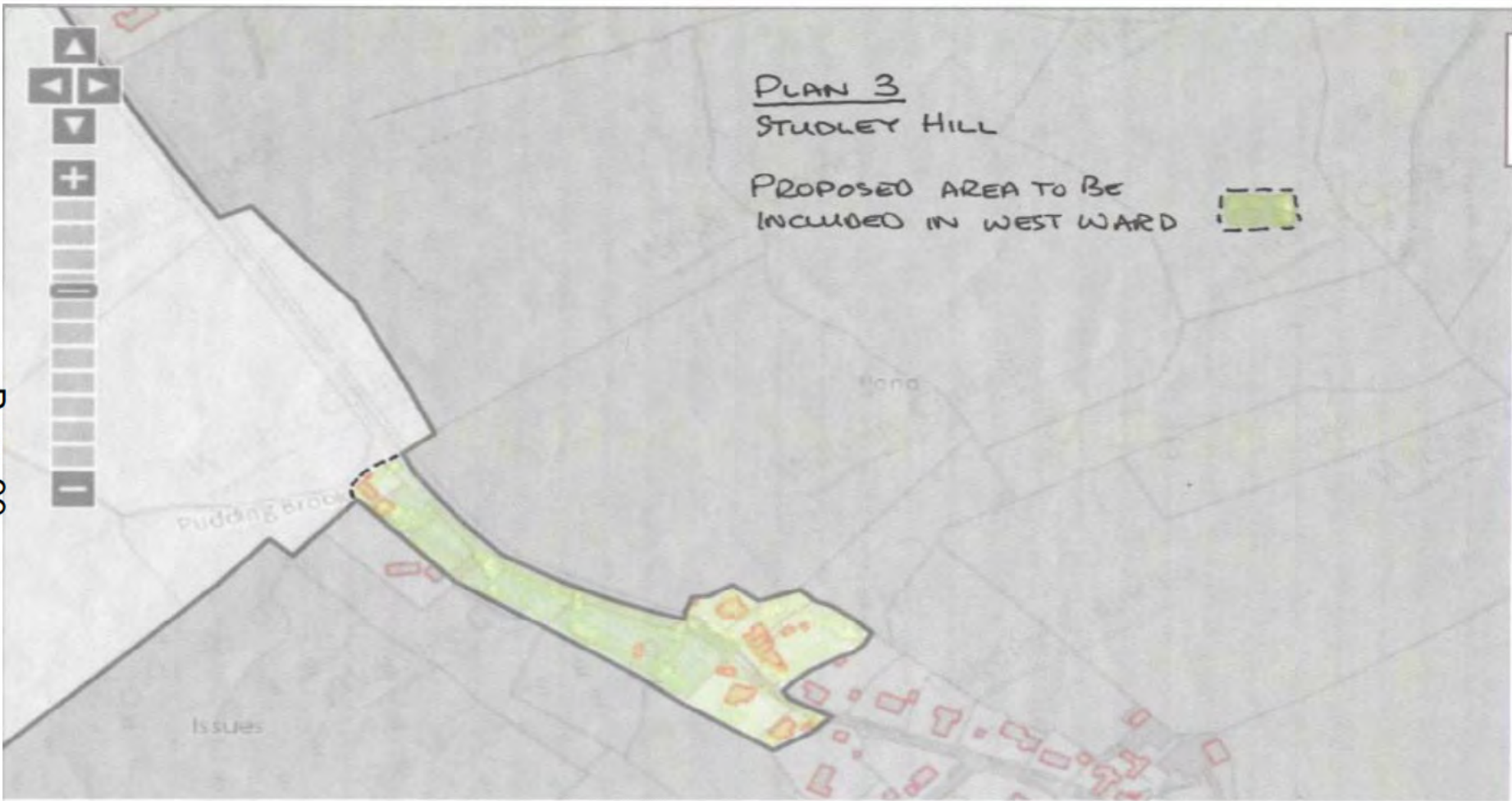
PROPOSED AREA TO BE INCLUDED IN WEST WARD



PLAN 2  
CHURCH RD & EAST SIDE OF DEVIZES ROAD

Page 98





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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 32: Pewsey

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### **Proposal**

Remove North and South Wards of the Parish of Pewsey

#### **Reason**

[Request from Pewsey Parish Council](#)

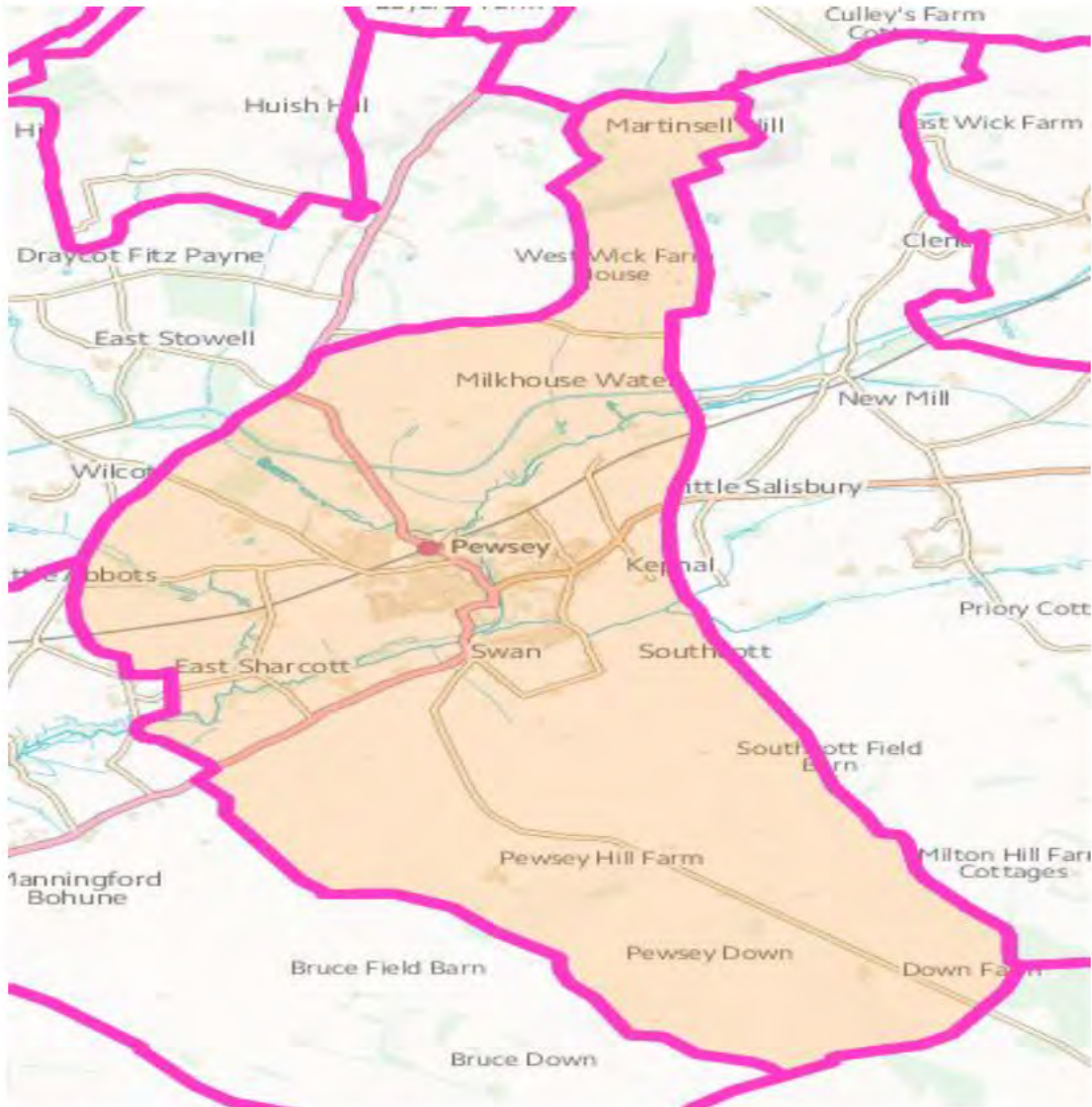
**Pewsey Electorate 1 Oct 2019 – 3047 (1644 North, 1403 South)**

**Pewsey Electorate 2024 (Projected) – 3284 (1837 North, 1447 South)**

**North Ward Councillors – 10**

**South Ward Councillors - 11**

## Map of Pewsey

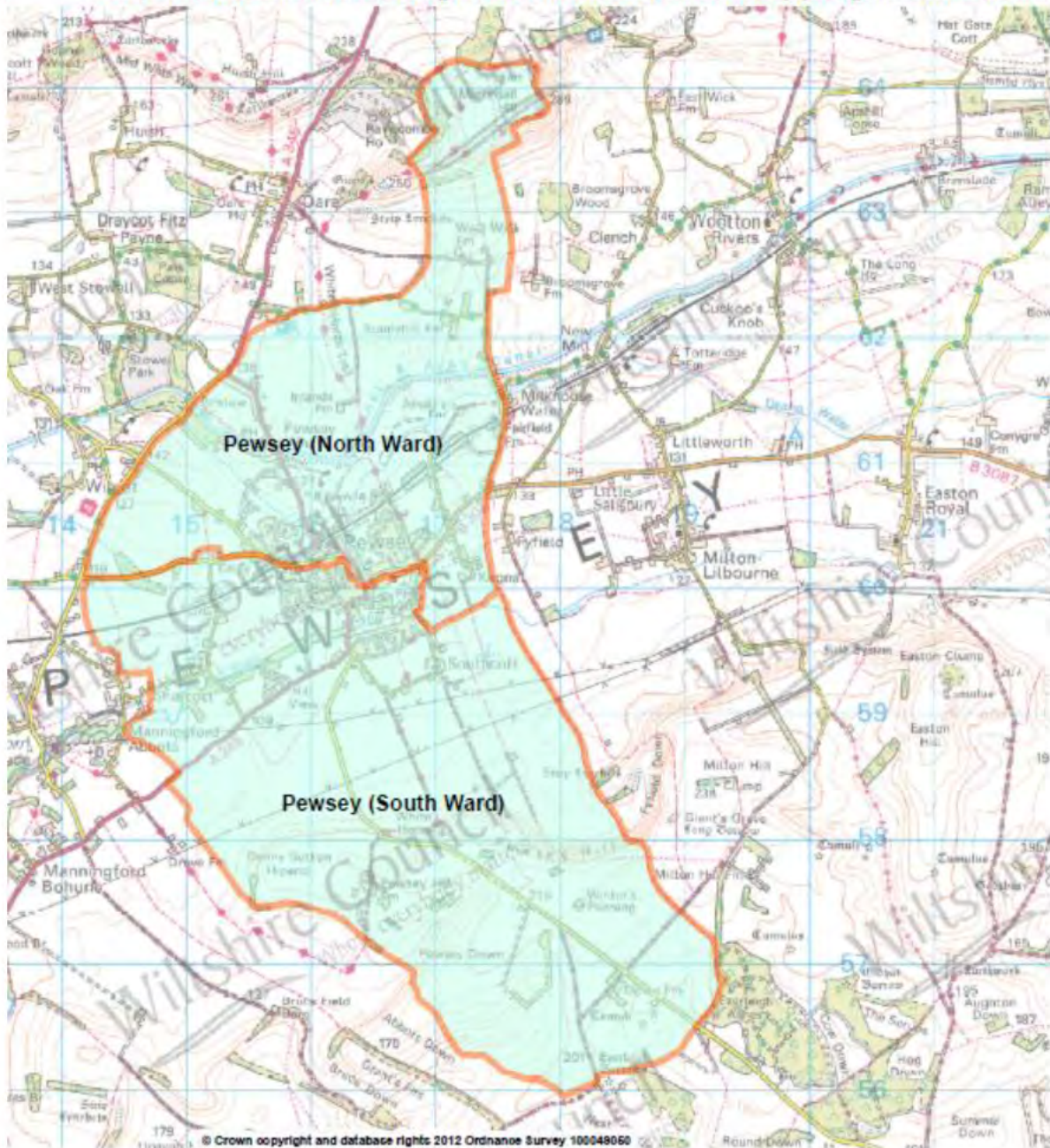


Contains Ordnance Survey and National Statistics data © Crown copyright and database right 2016

## Map of Pewsey Wards

### Pewsey Parish Wards

Please note the parish wards are for illustration purposes based on historic electoral registers as no official mapping is available



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Scheme 34: Wilcot 1

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)  
[CGR Guidance](#)

### Proposal

To review the external boundary of the parish where it meets that of Pewsey Parish at Sunnyhill Caravan Park, so that the whole area is in one parish.

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Wilcot Parish Council](#)

**Electorate of Pewsey Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 3047**

**Pewsey Electorate 2024 (Projected) – 3284**

**Electorate of Wilcot Parish 1 Oct 2019 –461**

**Electorate of Wilcot Parish 2024 (Projected) – 481**

**Electorate of area proposed 1 Oct 2019 – Approx 1-15**

**Electorate of area proposed 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – Approx 1-17**

### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

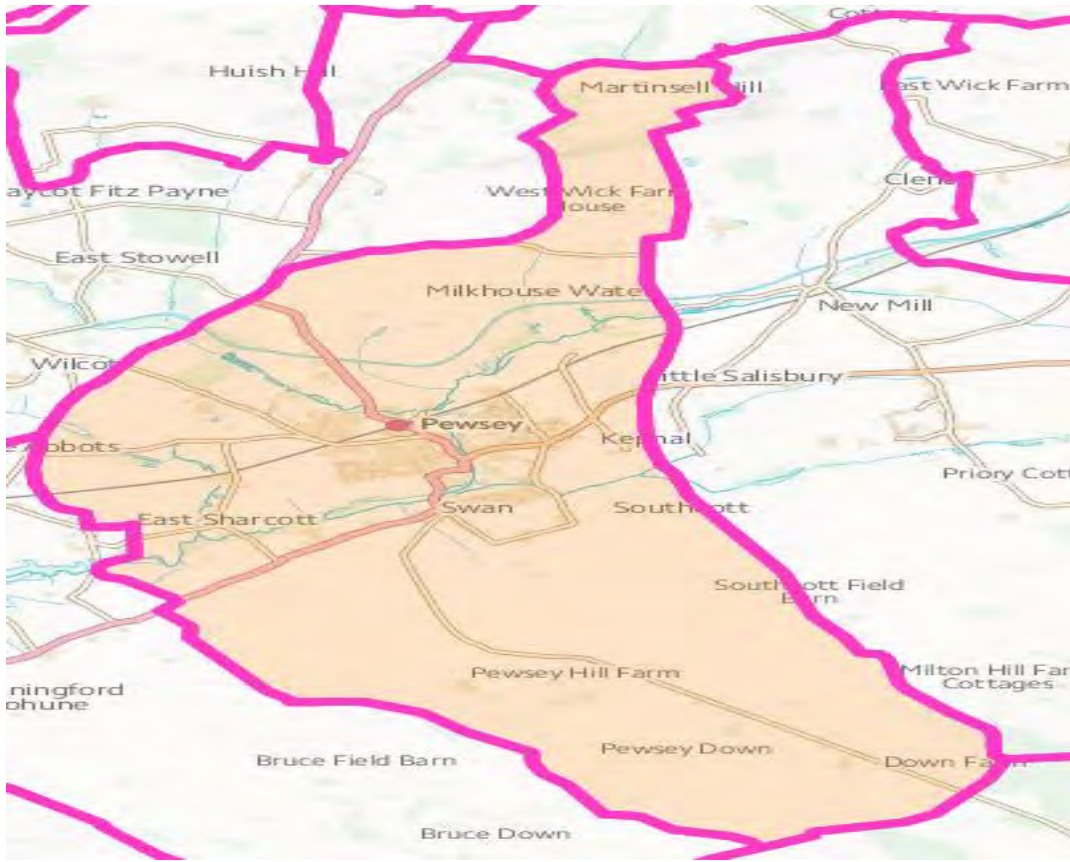
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Pewsey Parish Council	43.55	50.81	58.07	65.33	79.85	94.37	108.88	130.66
Wilcot Parish Council	17.44	20.35	23.25	26.16	31.97	37.79	43.60	52.32

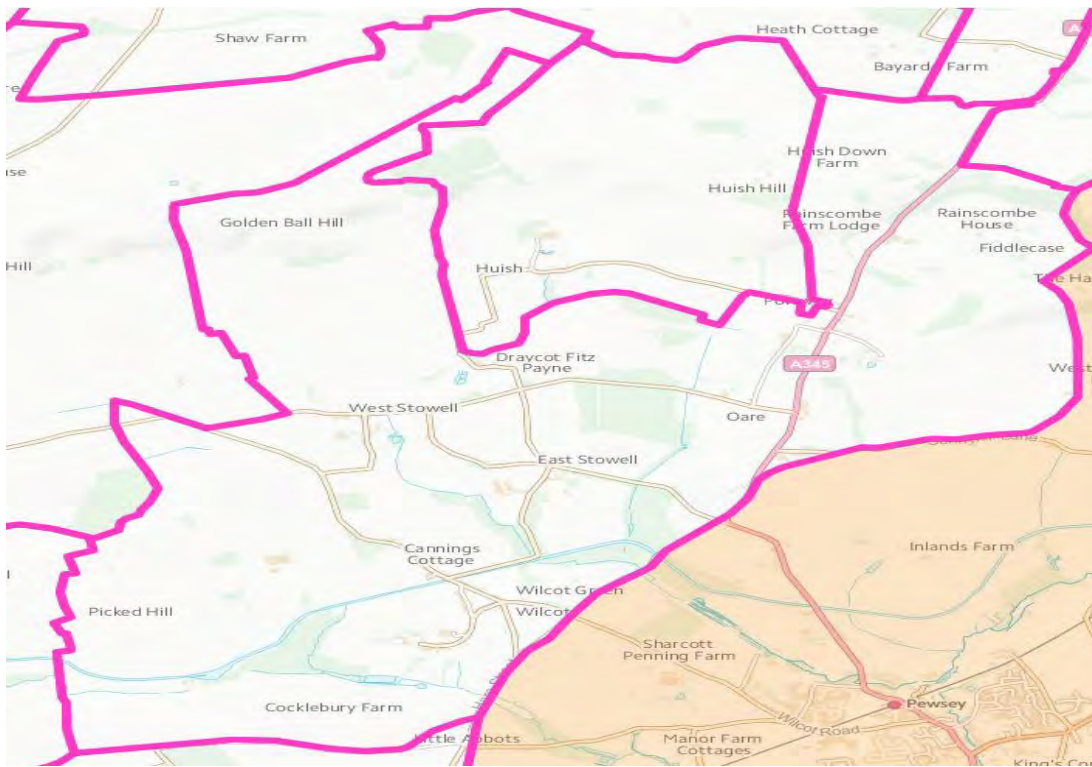
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Area

### Map of Pewsey Parish

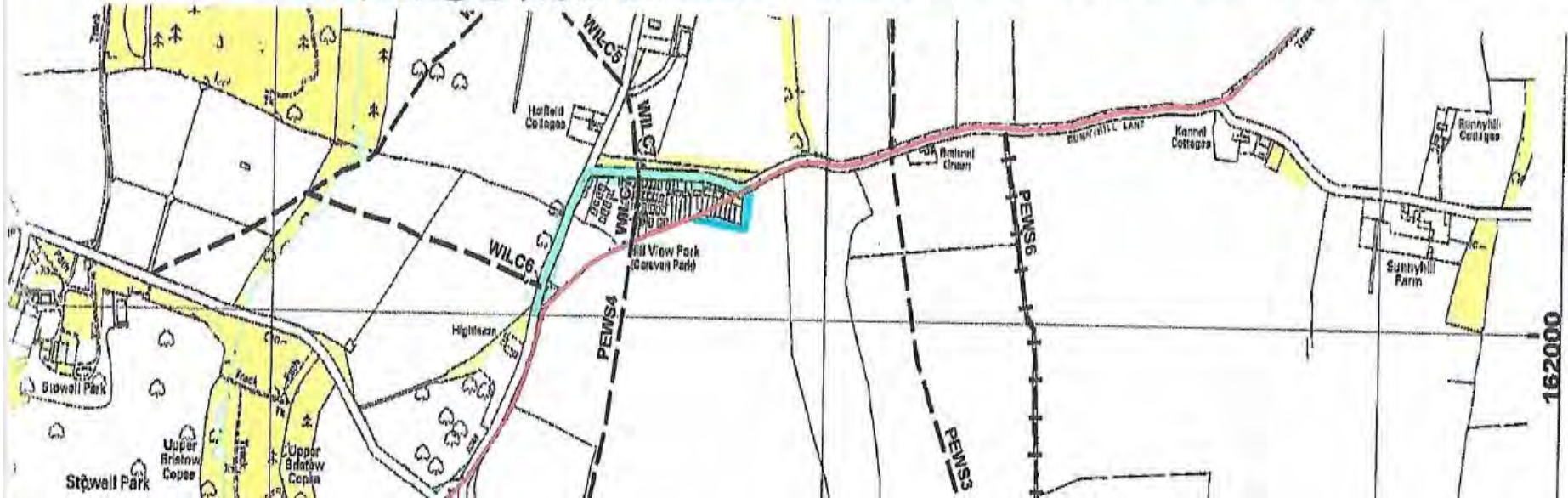


### Map of Wilcot Parish



Map of proposed area

- EXISTING BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY - CARAVAN PARK TRANSFERS TO PEWSEY
- PROPOSED NEW BOUNDARY - CARAVAN PARK TRANSFERS TO OARE



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 35: Wilcot 2

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

As submitted: To abolish the existing division of the parish into two wards, namely 'Wilcot&Huish' and 'Oare'

*Wiltshire Council Note: In response to the request abolish the wards of the parish it appeared that the historic parish of Huish may not have been legally absorbed into the parish of Wilcot in the past as had been thought.*

***Therefore, the proposal being suggested is to combine the two parishes into a single Parish, without wards, under a parish council to be called Wilcot, Huish and Oare Parish Council.***

#### Reason

[Reasoning of Wilcot Parish Council](#)

**Electorate of Wilcot Parish 1 Oct 2019 – 461**

**Electorate of Wilcot Parish 2024 (Projected<sup>1</sup>) – 481**

**Electorate of Wilcot West Ward (including Huish) 1 Oct 2019 – 236**

**Electoral Wilcot West Ward (including Huish) 2024 (Projected) – 238**

**Electorate of Wilcot East Ward 1 Oct 2019 – 226**

**Electoral of Wilcot East Ward 2024 (Projected) – 242**

**Electorate of Huish Parish 1 October 2019 – 36**

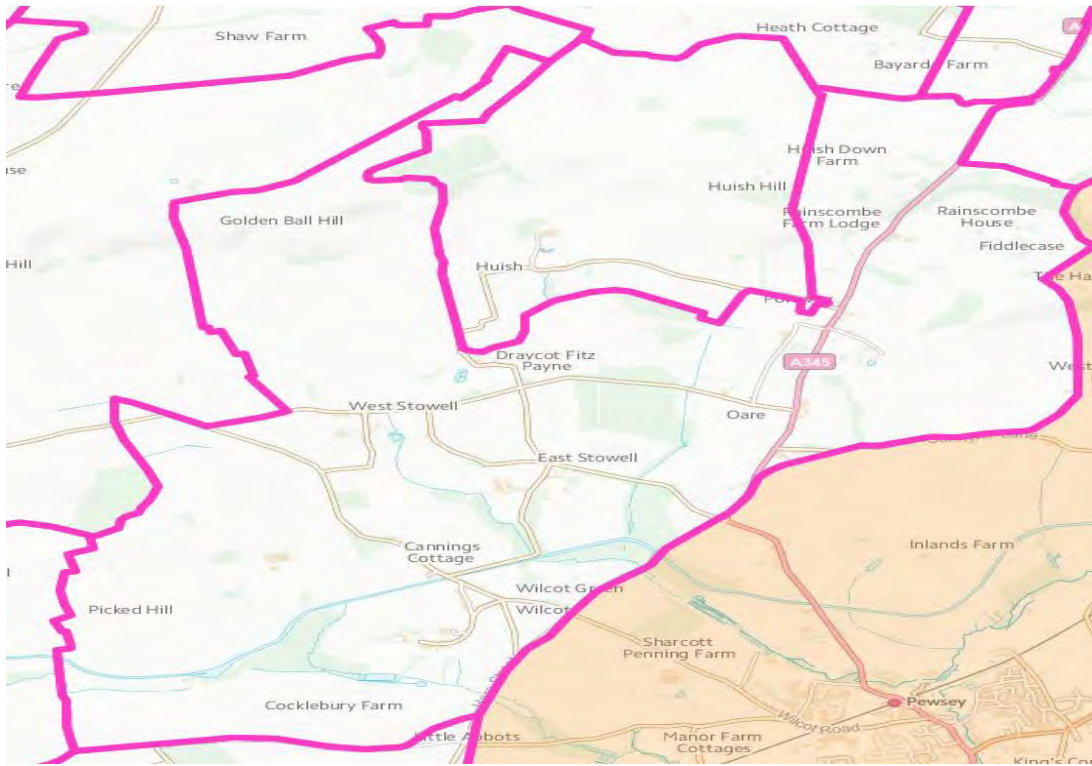
**Electorate of Huish Parish 2024 (Projected) – 36**

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<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Area

### Map of Wilcot and Huish Parishes



## Wilcot Parish Wards



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 37: Southwick

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

This CGR will have focus on land to the east of the existing border with Trowbridge at the following points along the A361:

a) Locations south of Frome Road:

- Oldbrick Fields

b) Locations north of Frome Road:

- Church Lane
- The Nestings

At the same time, we would also ask for additional sites to the South and west of the A361 corridor to be included within settlement.

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Southwick Parish Council](#)

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of Southwick Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 1626**

**Electorate of area 1 Oct 2019 – Approx 120-140**

**Electorate of area 2024 (estimated) – Approx 130-150**

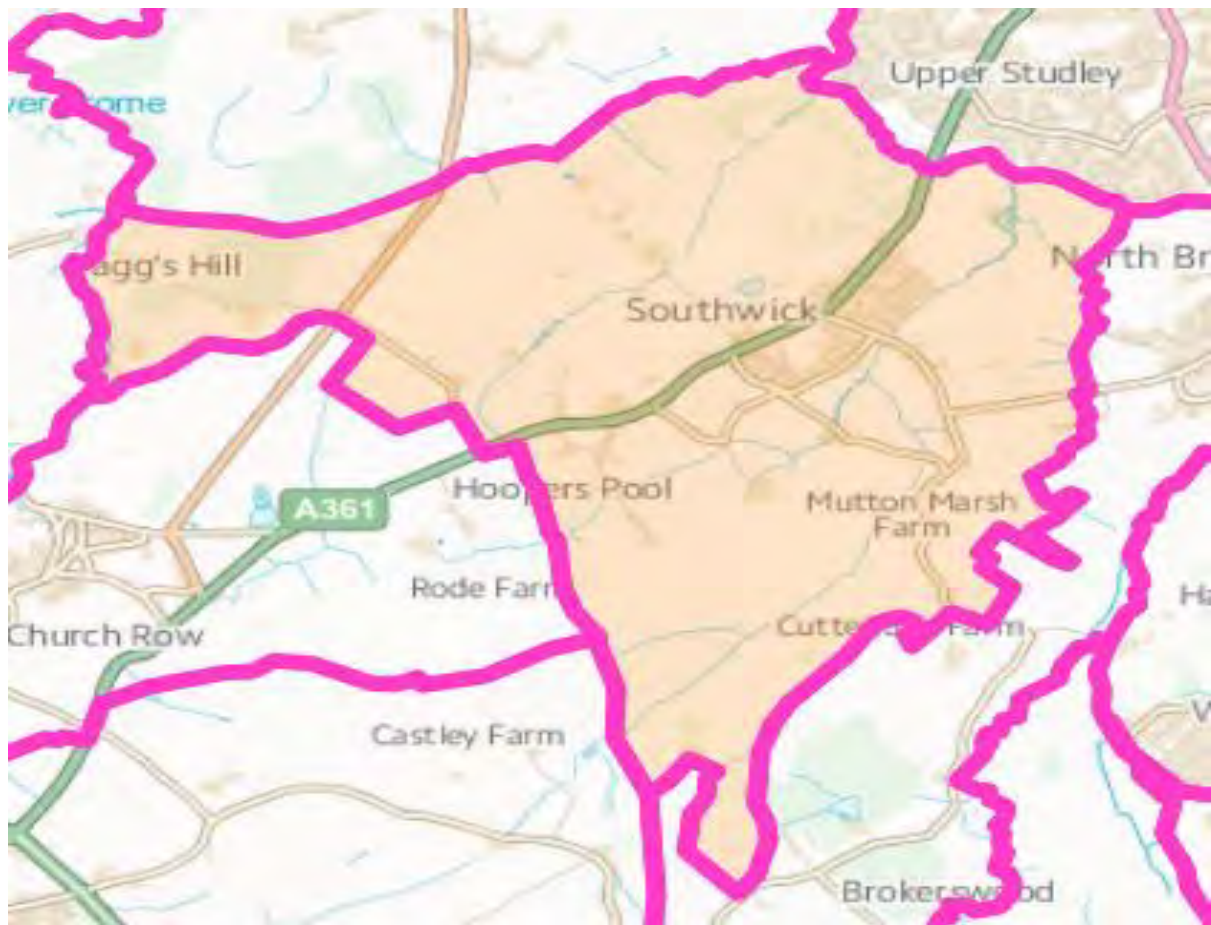
## Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

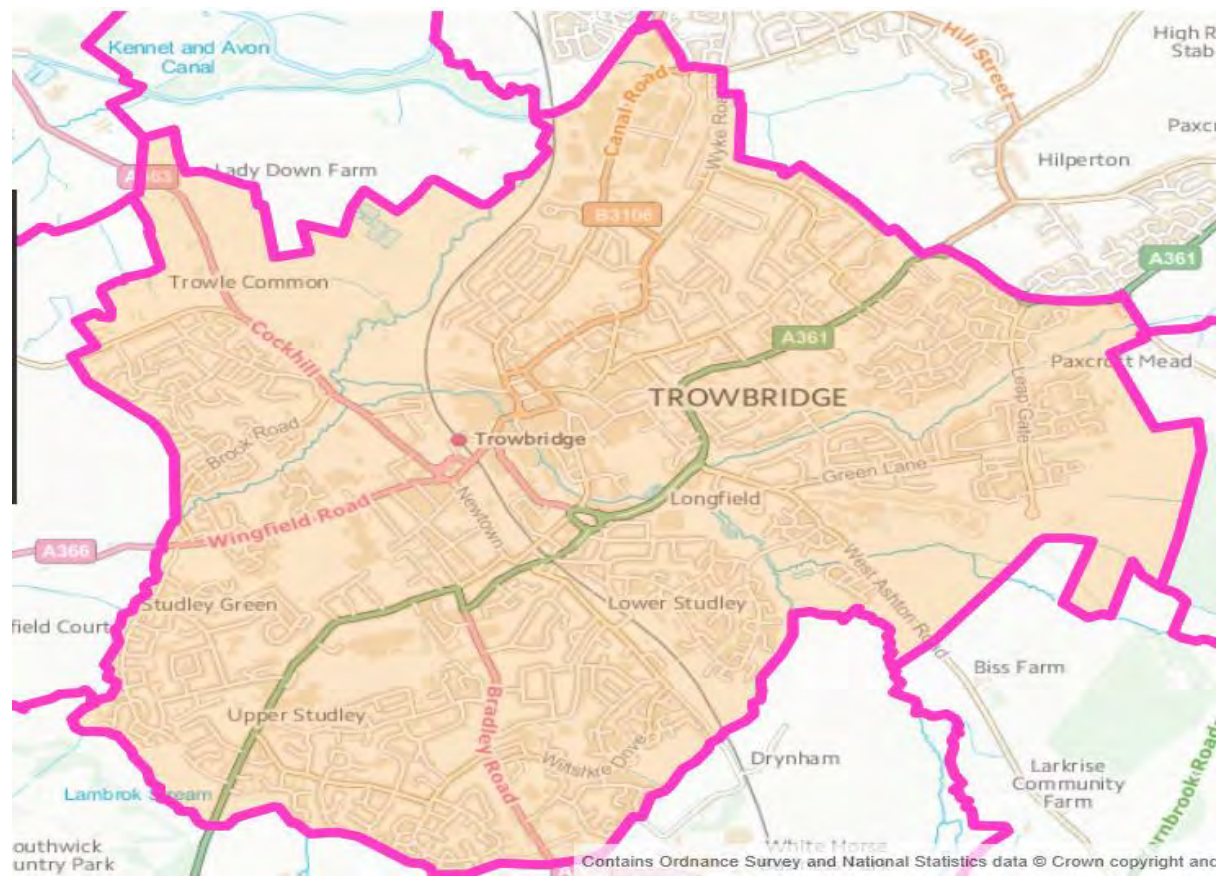
<b>Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)</b>	<b>Band A (£)</b>	<b>Band B (£)</b>	<b>Band C (£)</b>	<b>Band D (£)</b>	<b>Band E (£)</b>	<b>Band F (£)</b>	<b>Band G (£)</b>	<b>Band H (£)</b>
<b>Southwick Parish Council</b>	<b>19.37</b>	<b>22.59</b>	<b>25.82</b>	<b>29.05</b>	<b>35.51</b>	<b>41.96</b>	<b>48.42</b>	<b>58.10</b>
<b>Trowbridge Town Council</b>	<b>102.65</b>	<b>119.76</b>	<b>136.87</b>	<b>153.98</b>	<b>188.20</b>	<b>222.42</b>	<b>256.63</b>	<b>307.96</b>

## Map of Area

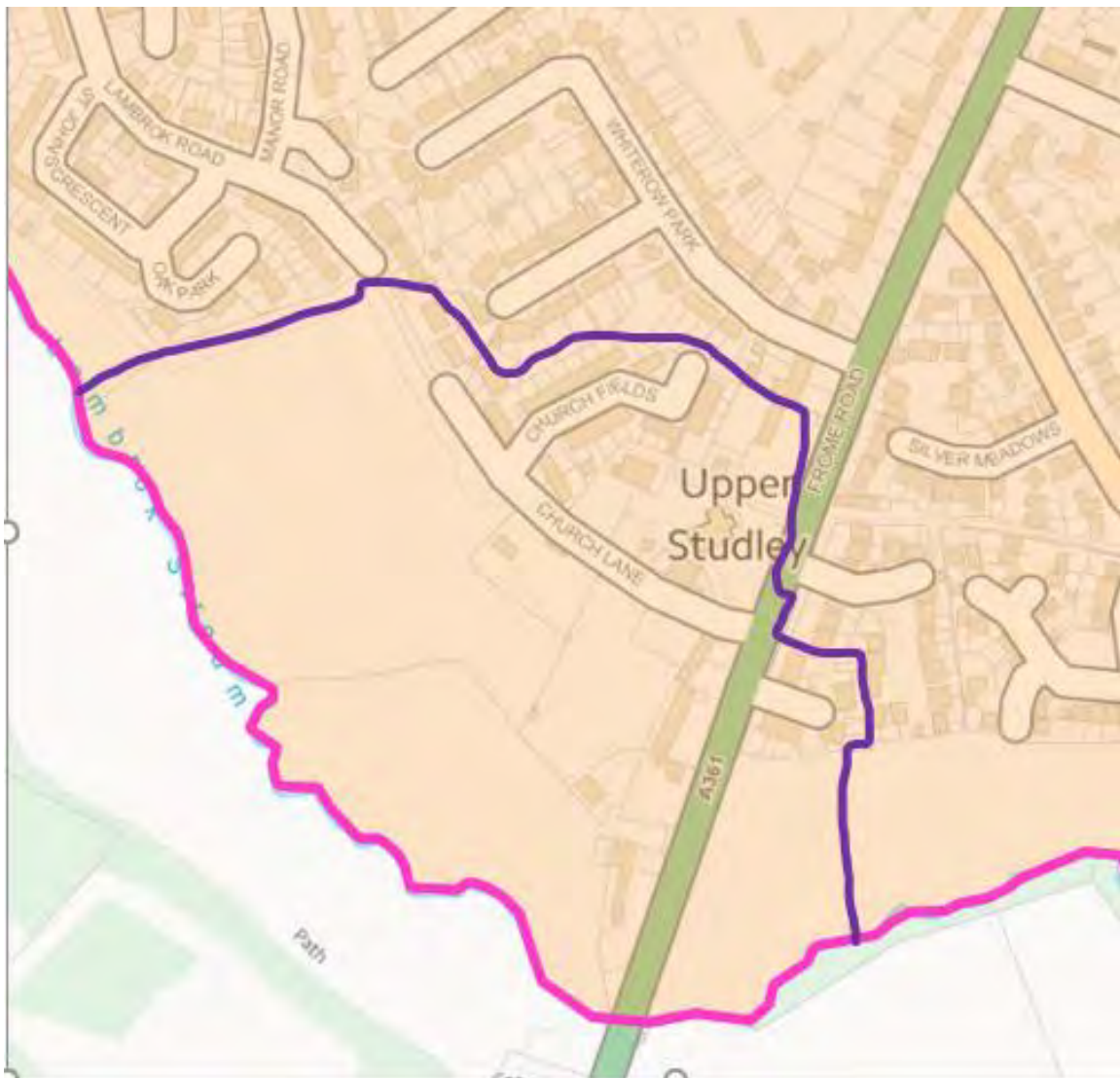
### Map of Southwick Parish



## Map of Trowbridge Parish



Map of Southwick Proposal



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## Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

### Scheme 40: Derry Hill and Studley

*(This reasoning for this scheme is as provided by the lead petitioner of a petition requesting creation of a new parish)*

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To establish a new parish at Derry Hill and Studley with no wards and 9 councillors, on the boundaries of the existing west and pewsham wards of calne without.

Wiltshire Council Note: to consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the unitary Divisions if appropriate

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Lead Petitioner](#)

**Electorate of Calne Without Parish 1 Oct 2019 – 2290**

**Electorate of Calne Without Parish 2024 (Projected) - 2787**

**Electorate of Proposed Parish of Derry Hill and Studley 1 October 2019 – 1214**

**Electorate of Proposed Parish of Derry Hill and Studley 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 1316**

**Electorate of remainder of Calne Without Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 1076**

**Electorate of remainder of Calne Without Parish 2024 (projected) - 1471**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

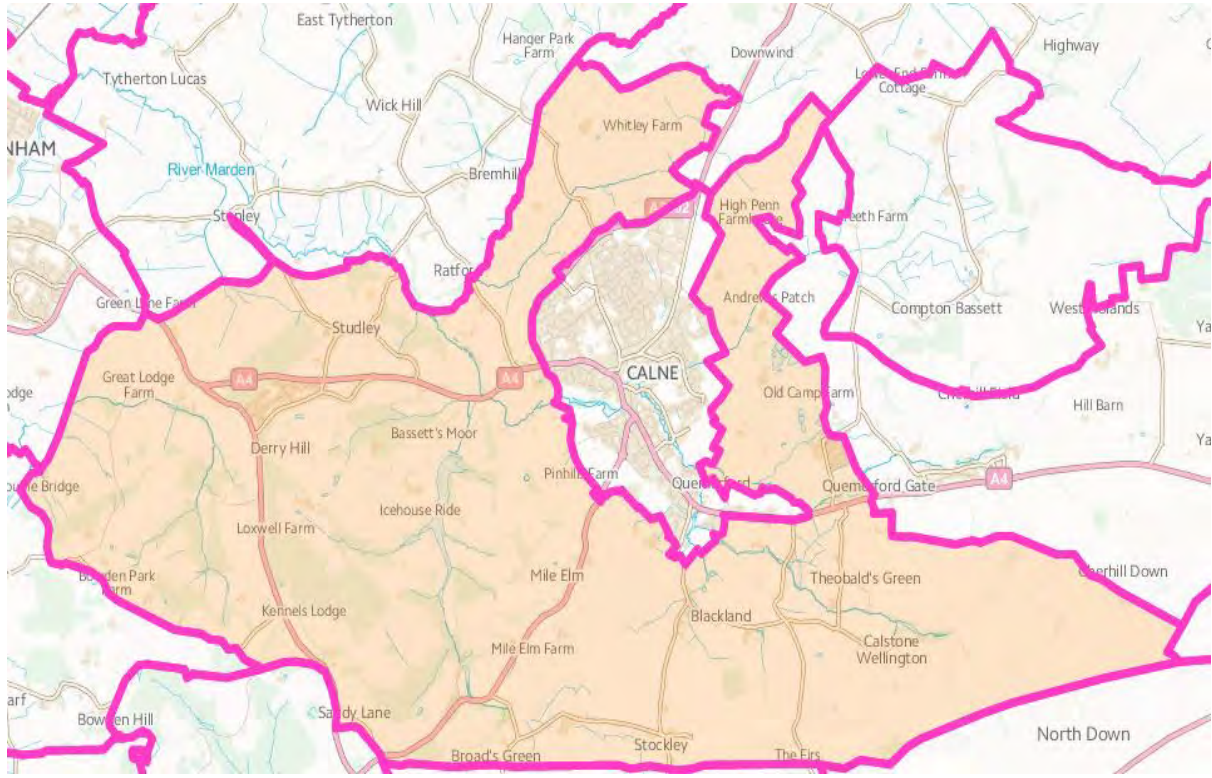
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Calne Without Parish Council	11.98	13.98	15.97	17.97	21.96	25.96	29.95	35.94

<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Area

### Map of Calne Without Parish



### Map of proposed Parish of Derry Hill and Studley





# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 41: Chippenham 1

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

The sports facility to the west of the A350 known as the Chippenham rugby club be included within the parish boundary

*Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved*

#### Reason

[Reasoning provided by Chippenham Town Council, the proposer](#)

**Electorate of Chippenham Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 27250**

**Electorate of Chippenham Without 1 Oct 2019 - 144**

**Electorate of area proposed 1 Oct 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of area proposed 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> - 0**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

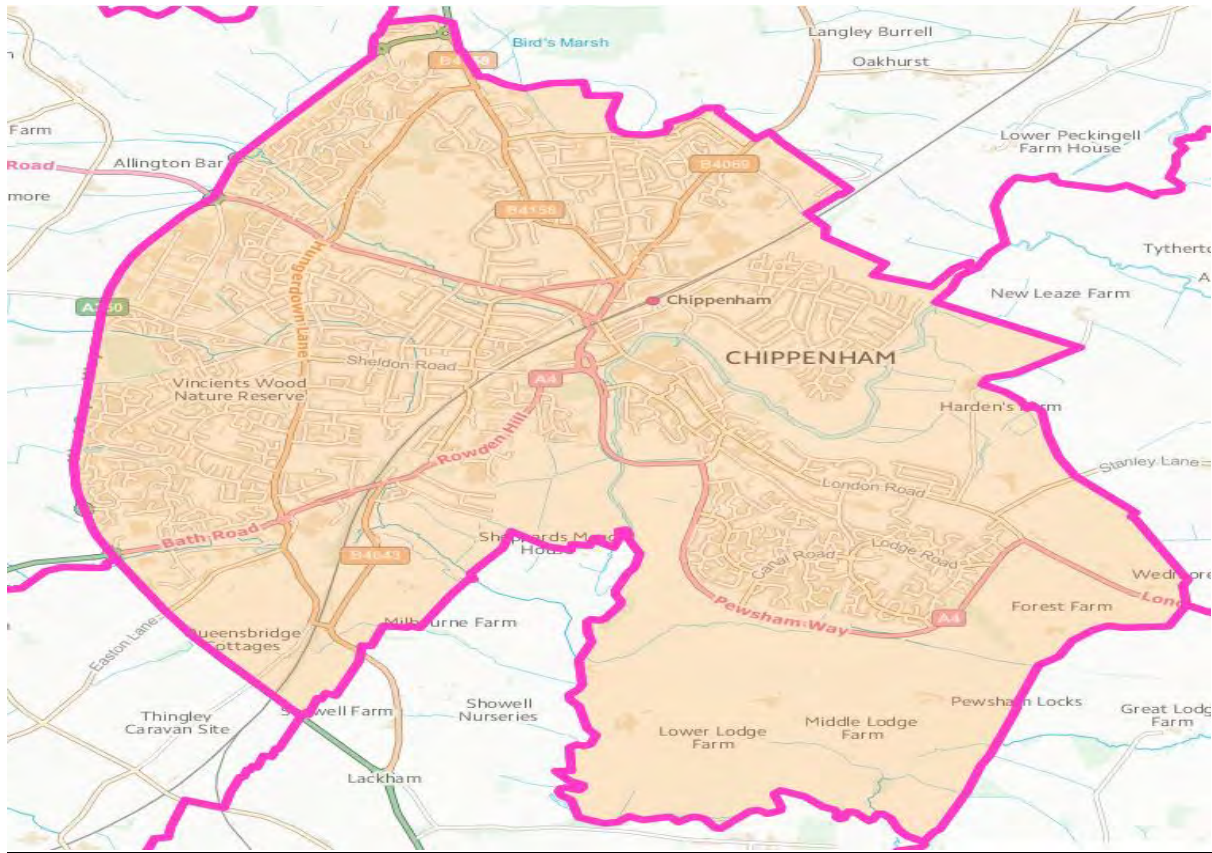
Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Chippenham Town Council	159.74	186.36	212.99	239.61	292.86	346.10	399.35	479.22
Chippenham Without Parish Council	64.89	75.70	86.52	97.33	118.96	140.59	162.22	194.66

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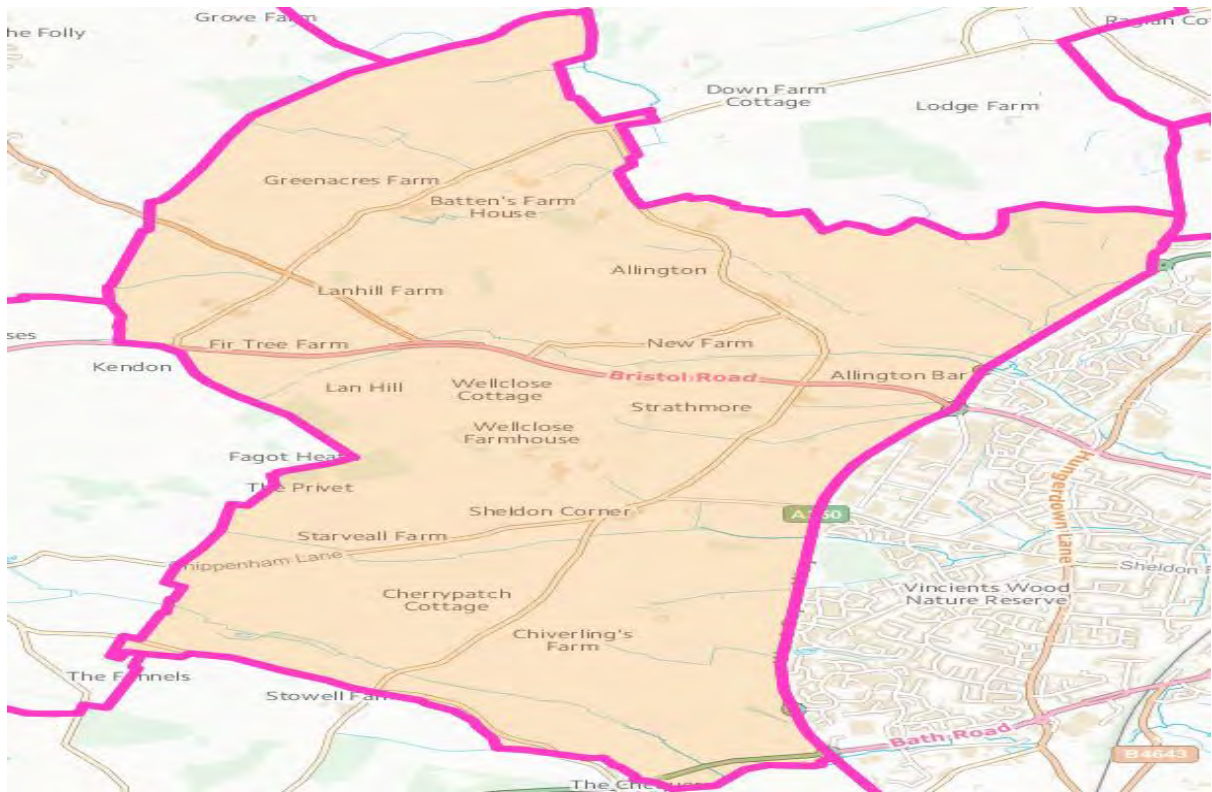
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Area

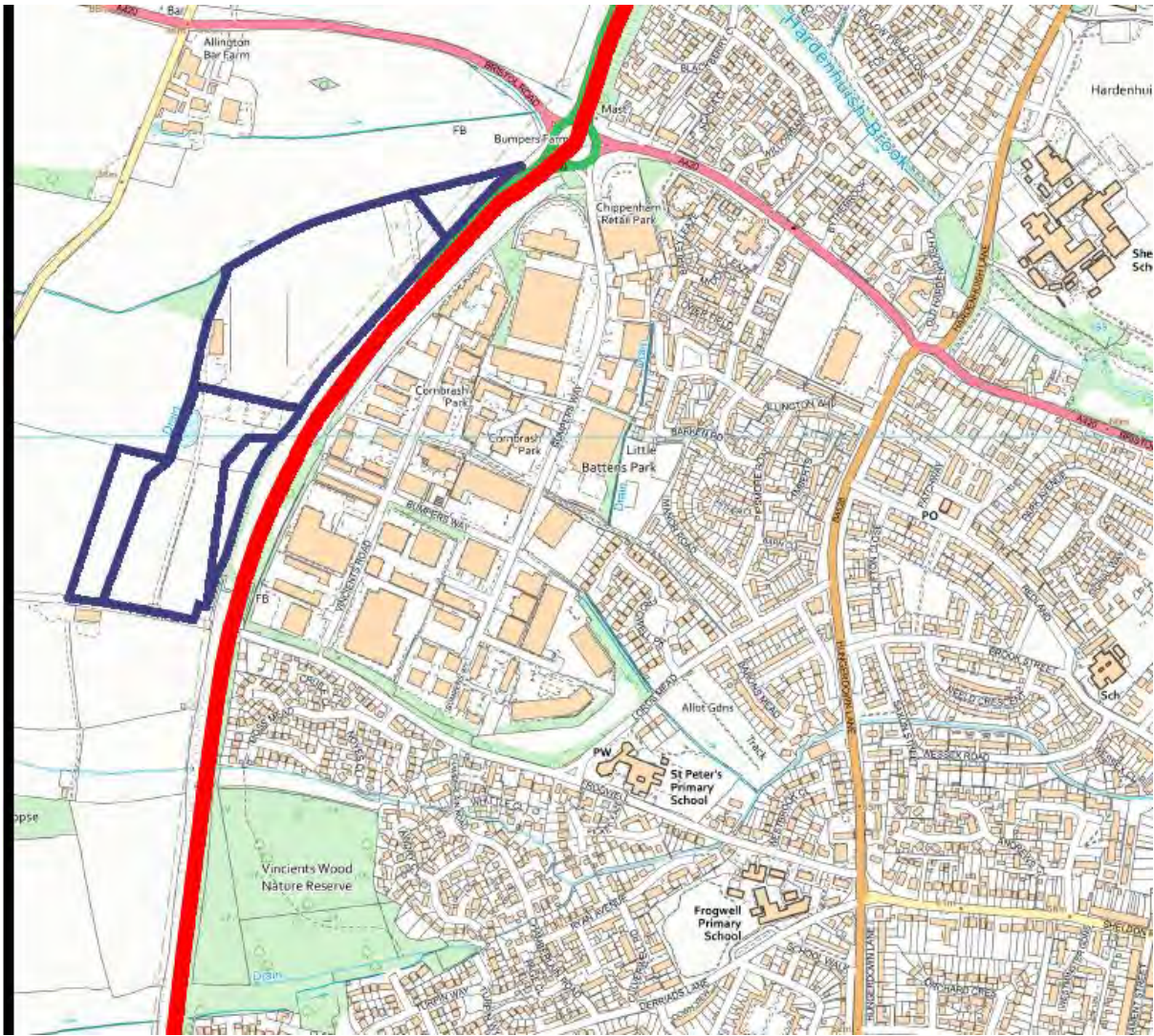
### Map of Chippenham Town Parish



### Map of Chippenham Without Parish



Map of proposed area



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 51: West Ashton 1

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

The land formally known as the “Land West of Biss Farm”, which has been subject to planning permissions since 1999, to be transferred from Trowbridge Town to West Ashton Parish.

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Reasoning from West Ashton Parish Council, the proposer](#)

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of West Ashton Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 361**

**Electorate of Area 2 1 Oct 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of Area 2 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – 0**

**Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts**

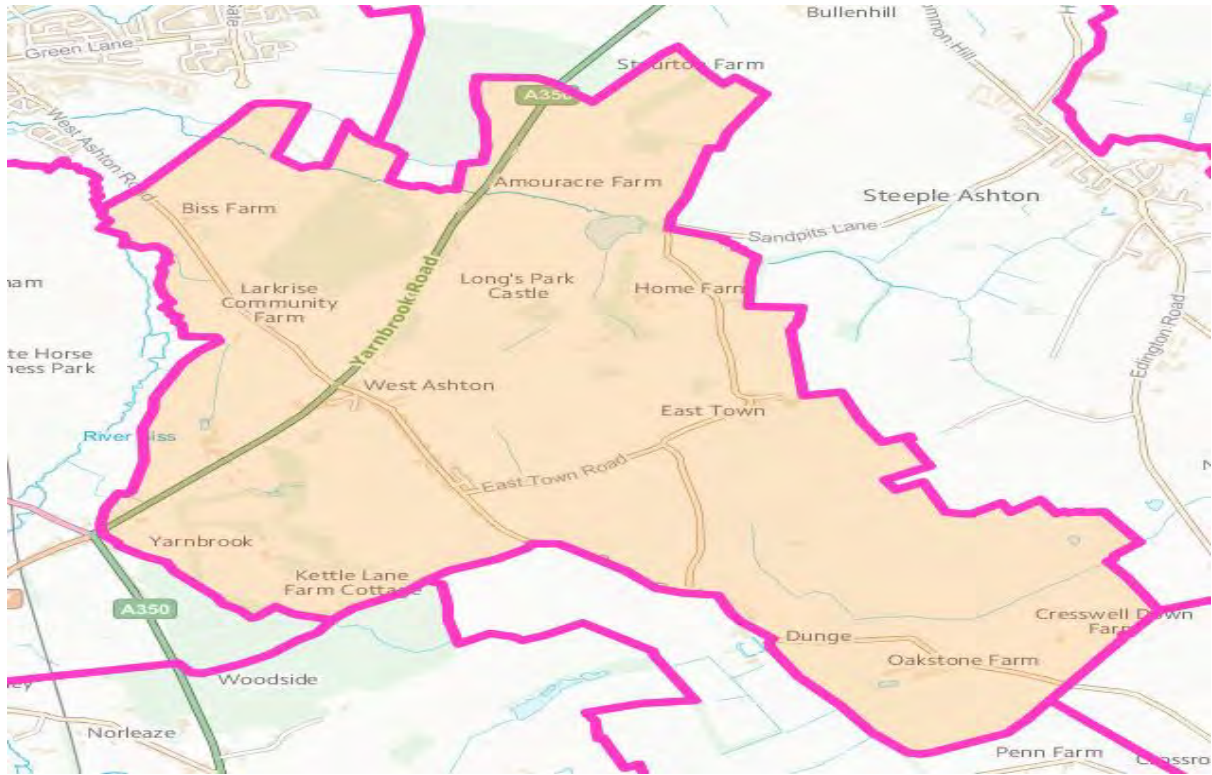
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
West Ashton Parish Council	20.66	24.10	27.55	30.99	37.88	44.76	51.65	61.98
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

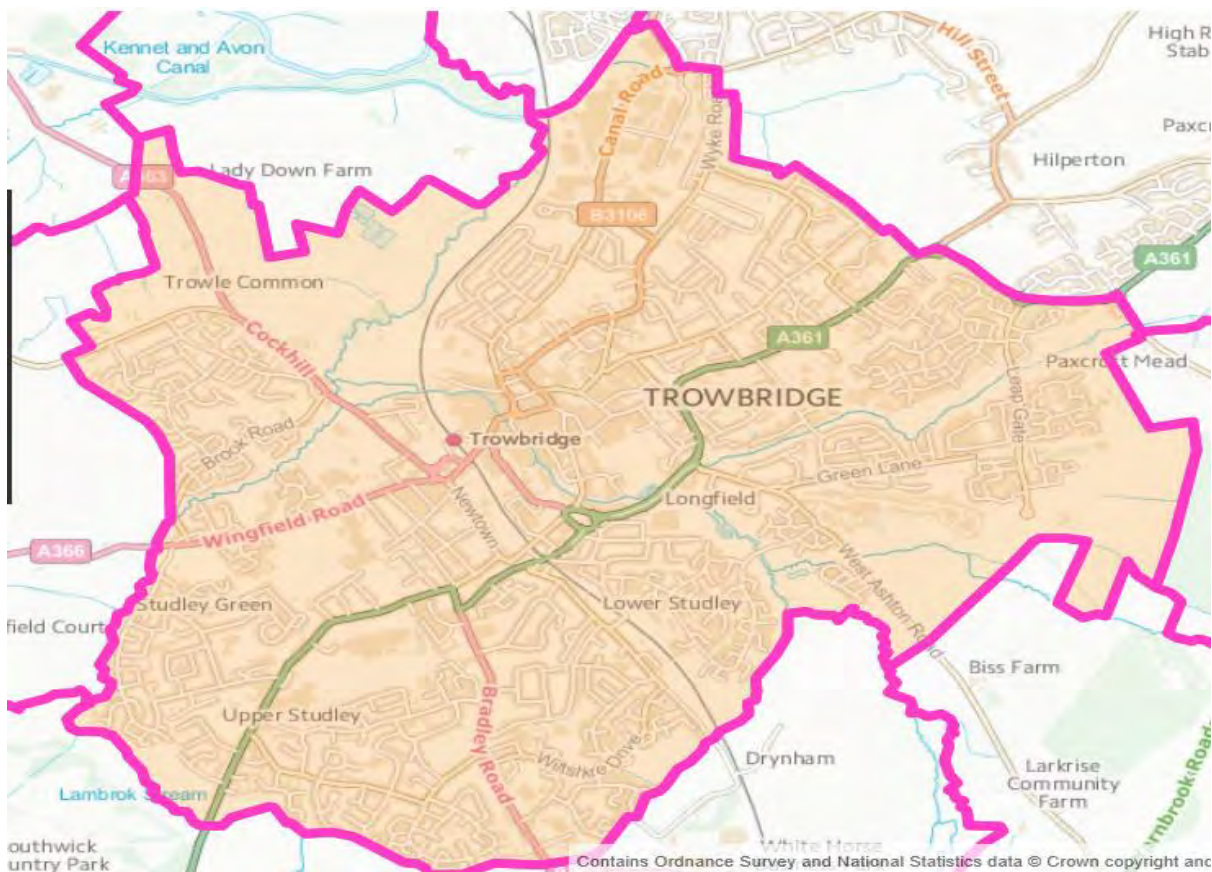
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Area

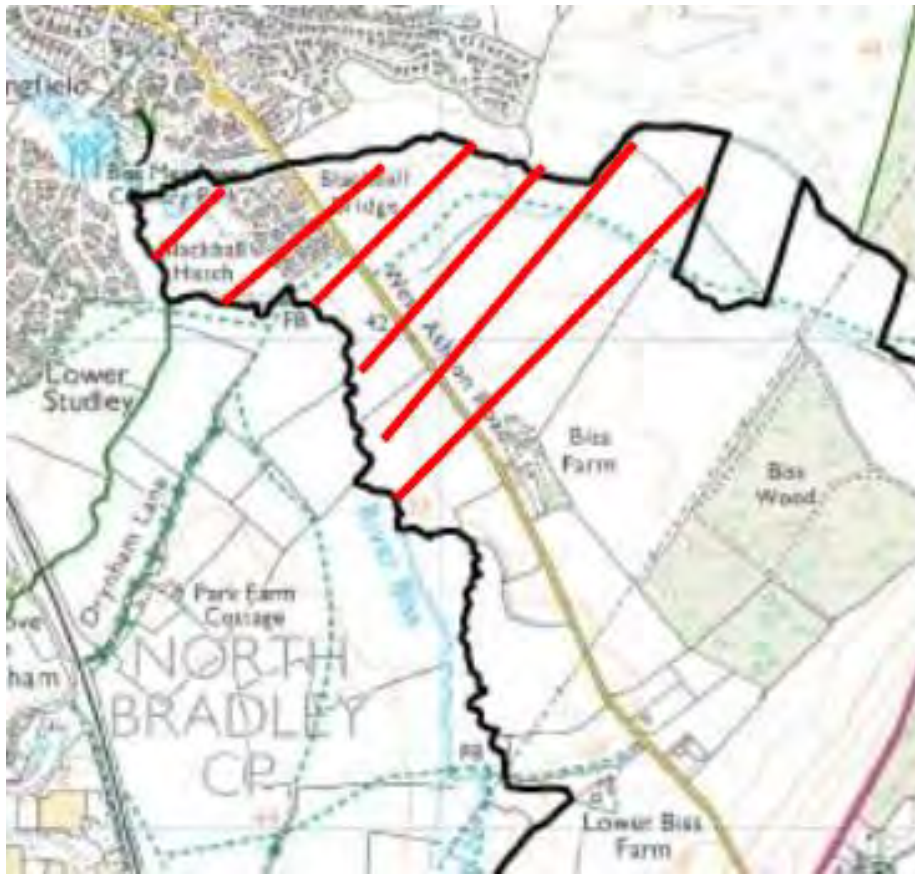
### Map of West Ashton Parish



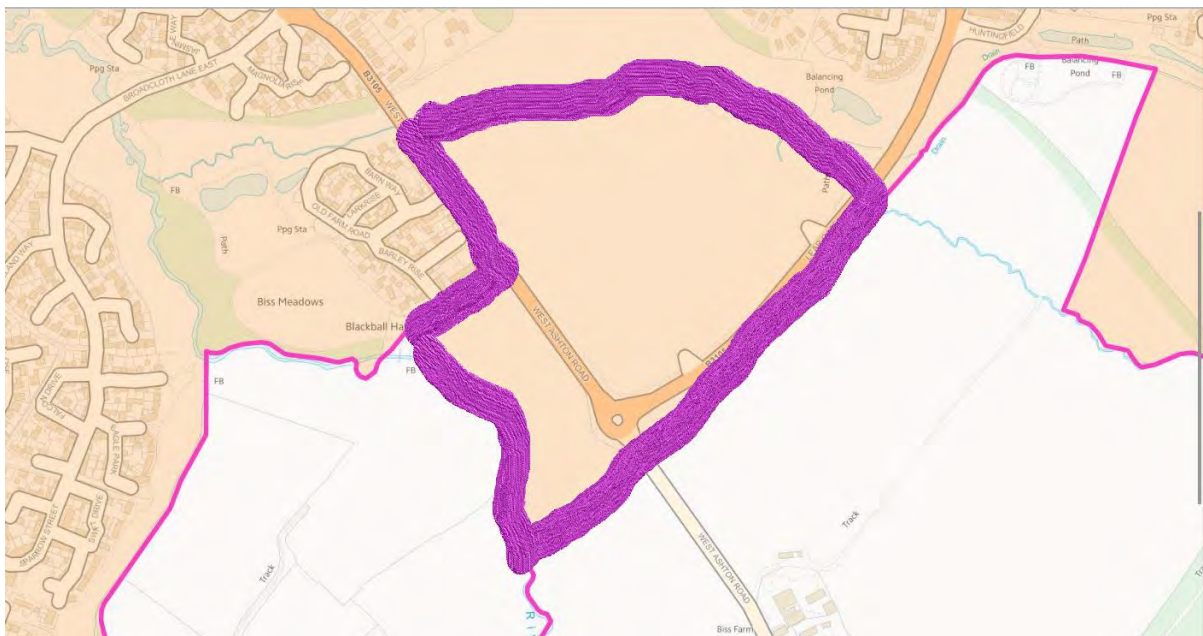
### Map of Trowbridge Parish



Map of West Ashton Proposal – Schemes 51 and 52



Scheme 51



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 52: West Ashton 2

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

Old Farm estate, the former site of Larkrise Farm to be transferred from Trowbridge Town to West Ashton Parish. The farm will be adjacent to the re-routed A350 in the parish.

#### Reason

[Reasoning of West Ashton Parish Council, the proposer](#)

**Electorate of Trowbridge Town Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 26717**

**Electorate of West Ashton Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 361**

**Electorate of Old Farm estate 2018 – 175**

**Electorate of Old Farm estate 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> –182**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

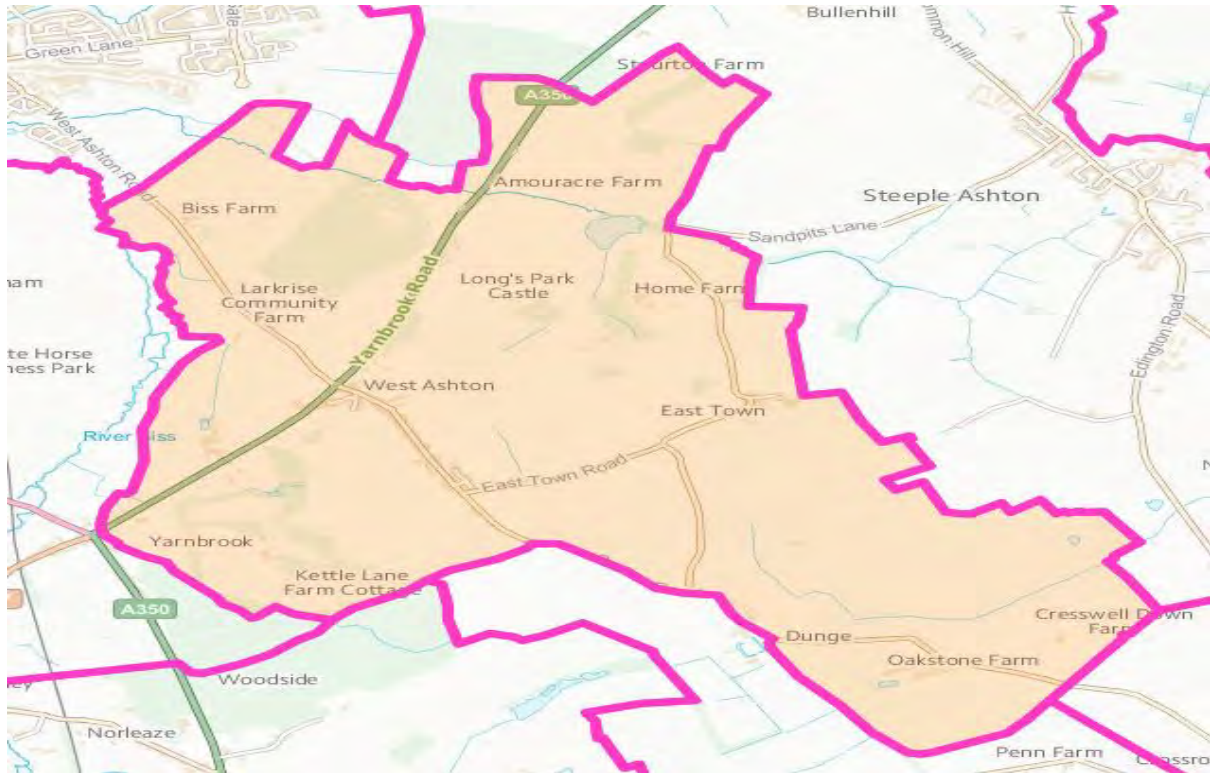
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
West Ashton Parish Council	20.66	24.10	27.55	30.99	37.88	44.76	51.65	61.98
Trowbridge Town Council	102.65	119.76	136.87	153.98	188.20	222.42	256.63	307.96

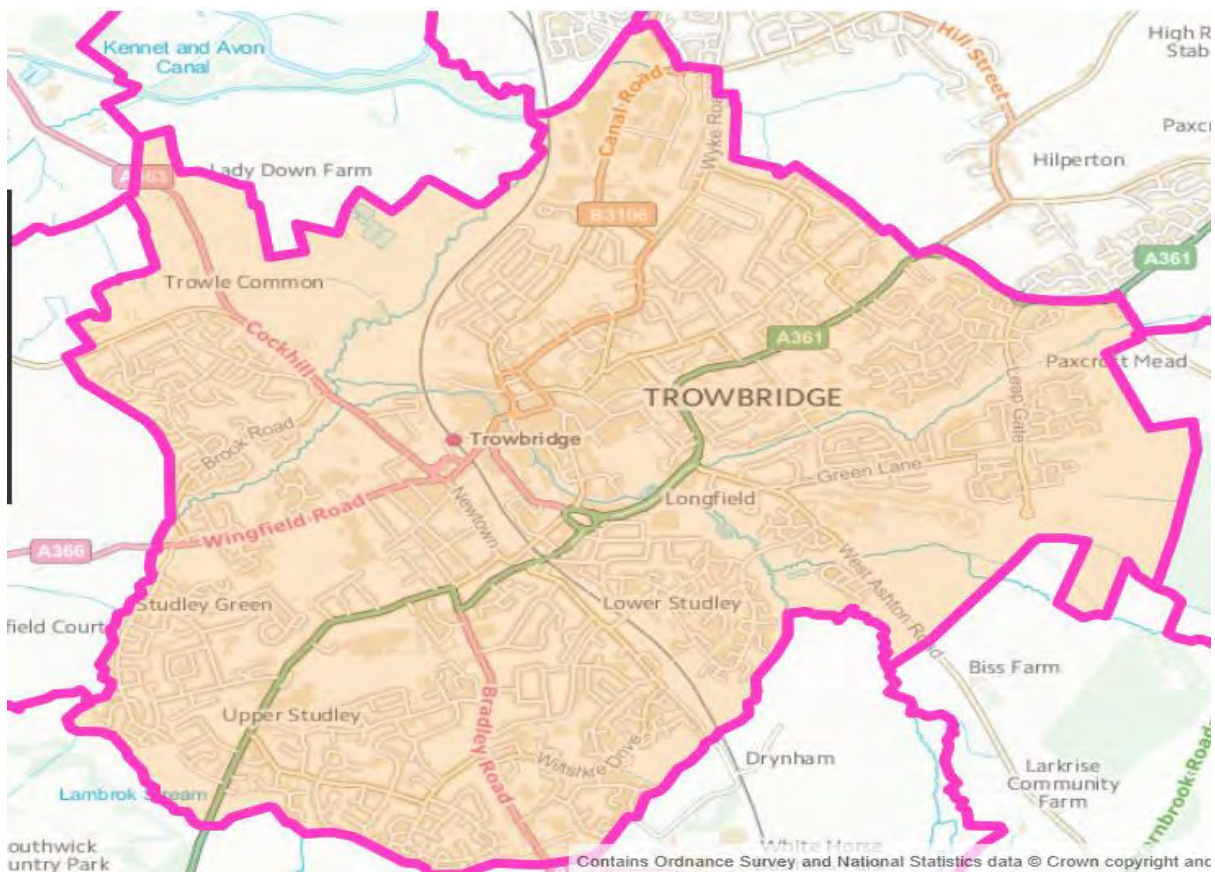
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Area

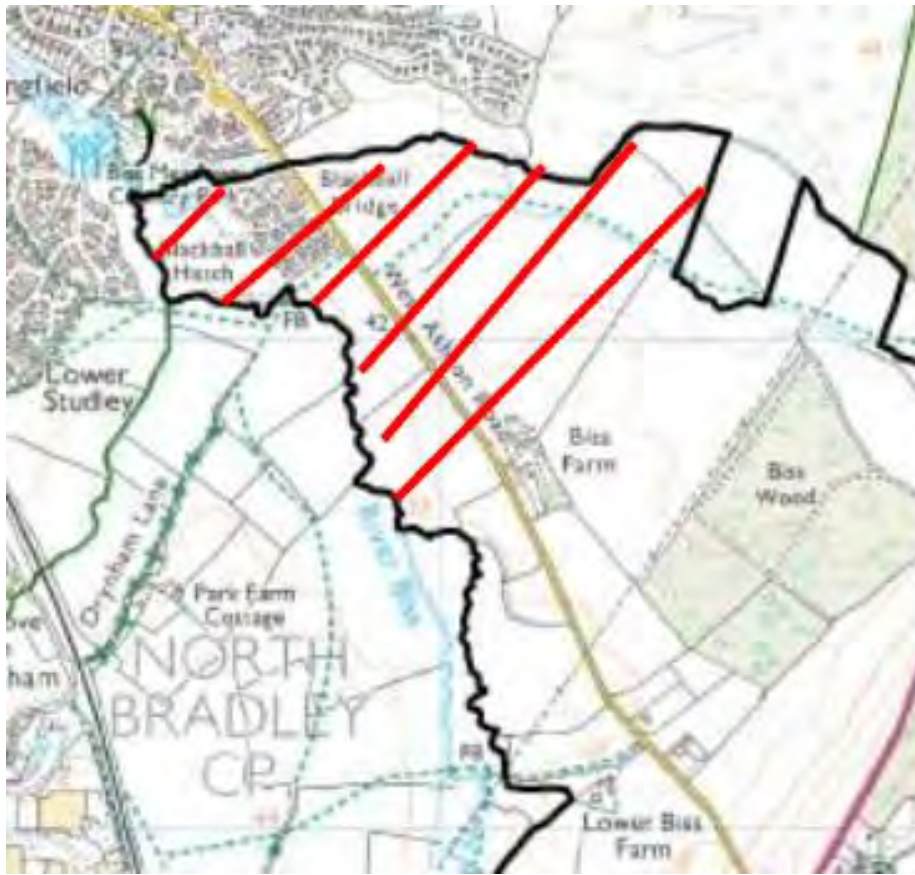
### Map of West Ashton Parish



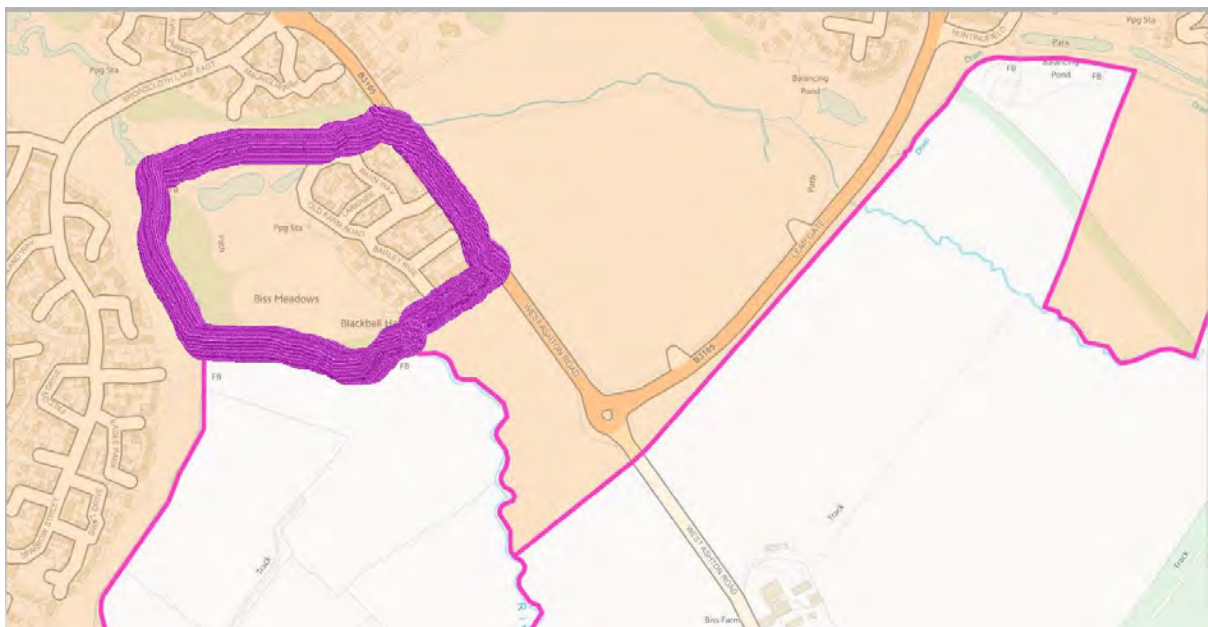
### Map of Trowbridge Parish



Map of West Ashton Proposal – Schemes 51 and 52



Scheme 52



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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 74: Salisbury

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### **Proposal**

To make the City Council ward boundaries coterminous with the Wiltshire Council unitary boundaries/

Note: Salisbury Milford Unitary Division contains the Salisbury St Marks and Bishopdown, and Salisbury Milford City Wards.

#### **Reason**

[Request from Salisbury City Council](#)

Map of Salisbury

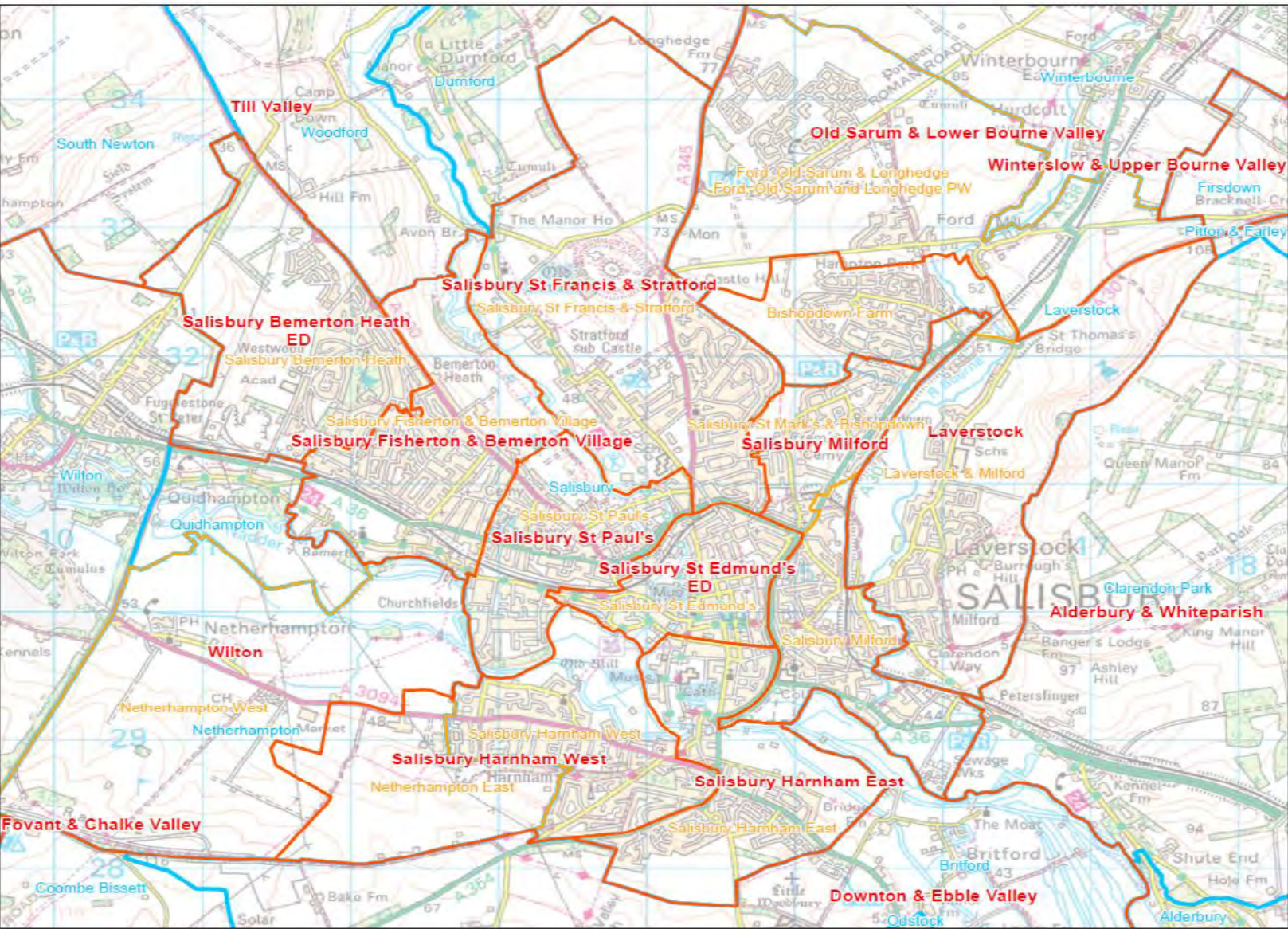
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Parish Warding Arrangements for Salisbury

- County
- Divisions
- Parish Ward
- Parish

0 0.275 0.55 1.1  
Kilometers

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100049226 2016



# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 75: Chippenham Without

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

Transfer of Cedar Lodge, Allington from Kington St Michael Parish to Chippenham Without Parish

#### Reason

[Reasoning of Chippenham Without Parish Council, the proposer.](#)

**Electorate of Kington St Michael Parish 1 October 2019 - 571**

**Electorate of Chippenham Without 1 October 2019 - 144**

**Electorate of area proposed 1 October 2019 – Approx 1-2**

**Electorate of area proposed 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> – Approx 1-2**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

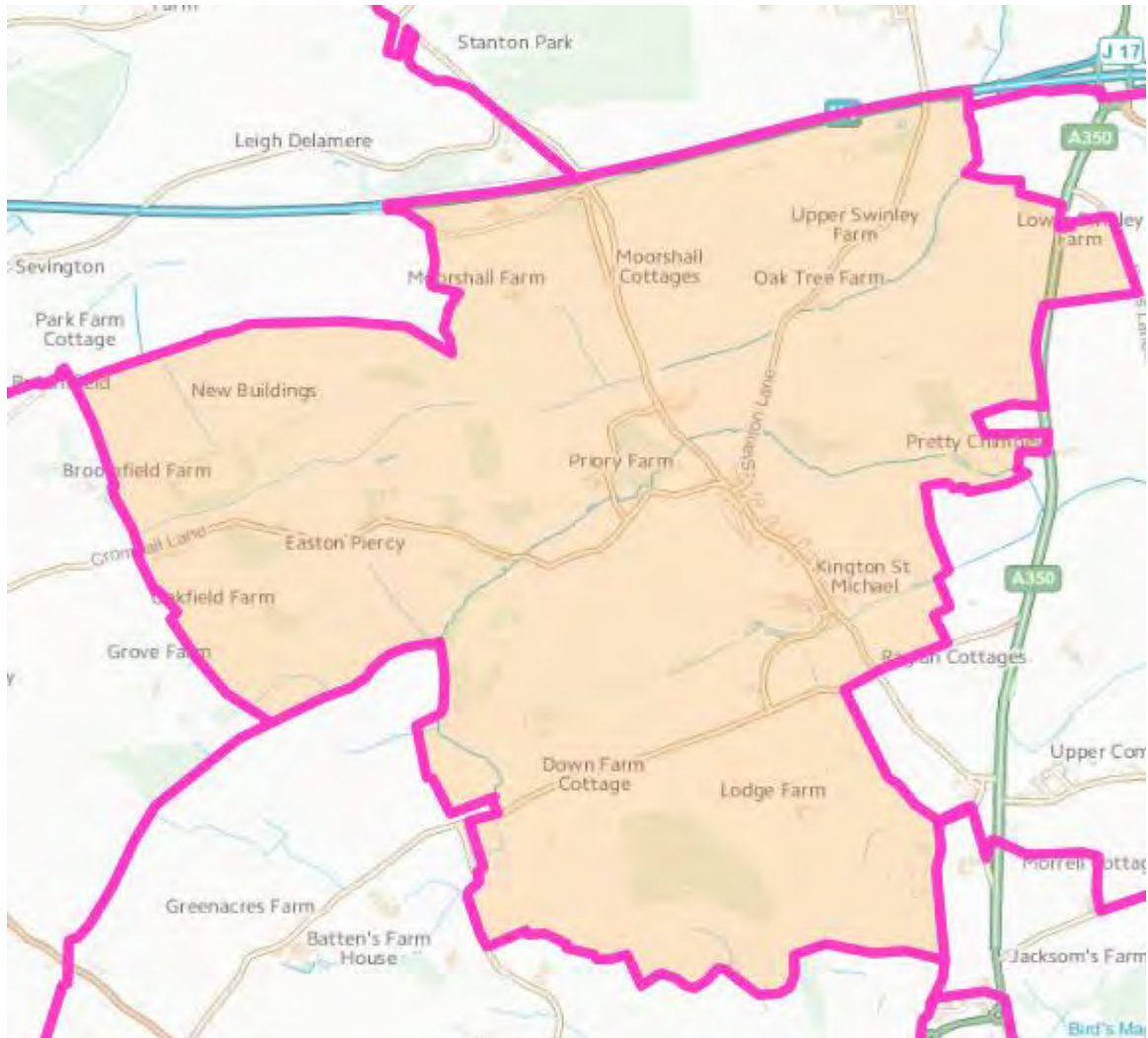
*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Kington St Michael Parish Council	54.65	63.75	72.86	81.97	100.19	118.40	136.62	163.94
Chippenham Without Parish Council	64.89	75.70	86.52	97.33	118.96	140.59	162.22	194.66

<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

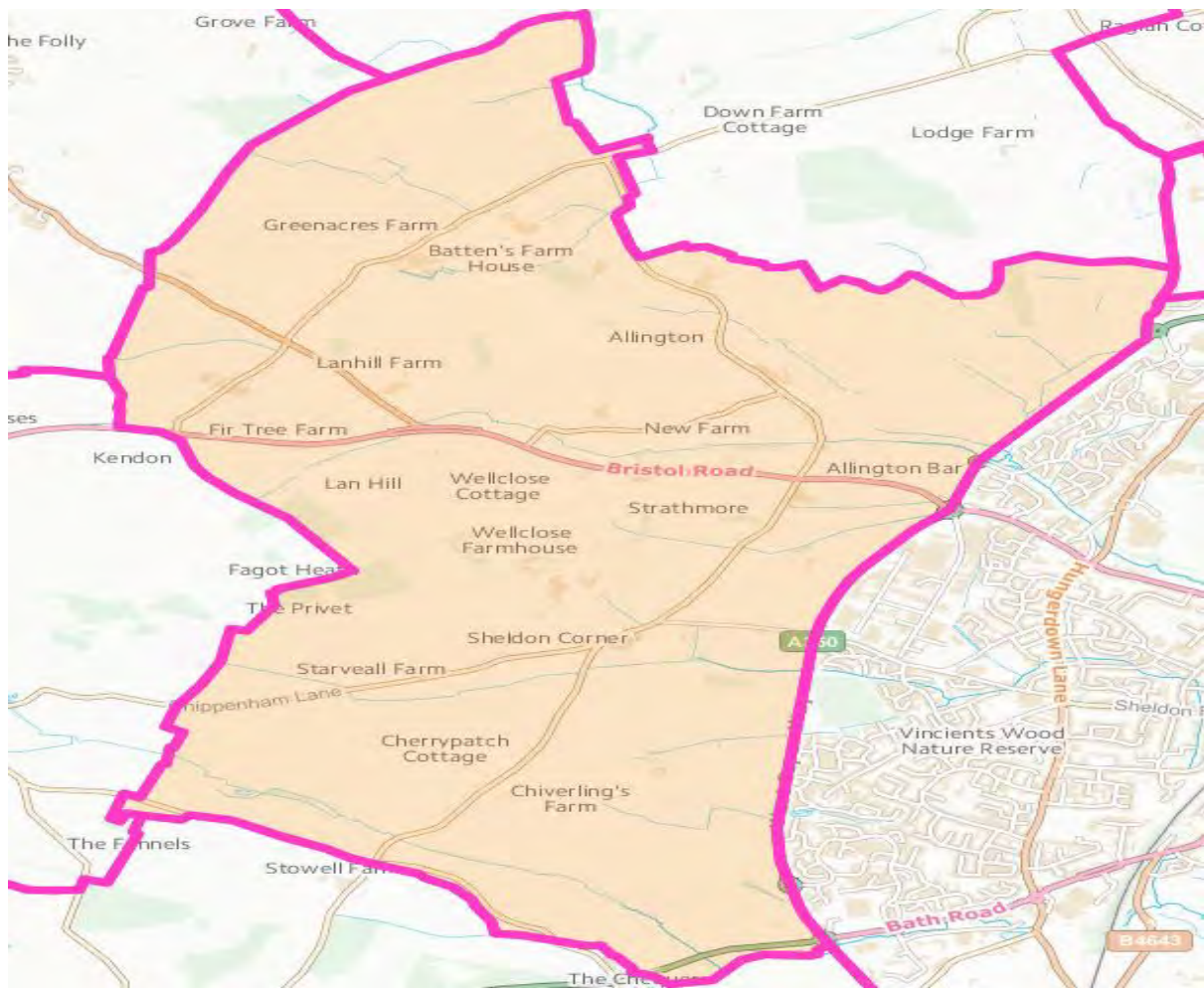
## Map of Area

### Map of Kington St Michael Parish





## Map of Chippenham Without Parish



Map of proposed area



# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 76: Woodborough

---

[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

To review the boundary between Woodborough and the neighbouring parish of Manningford by transferring the Garden Centre and houses known as Nursery Barns

#### Reason

[Reasoning of Woodborough Council, the proposer](#)

**Electorate of Manningford Parish 1 Oct 2019 - 328**

**Electorate of Manningford Parish 2024 (Projected) – 323**

**Electorate of Woodborough Parish 1 Oct 2019 – 241**

**Electorate of Woodborough Parish 2024 (Projected) – 248**

**Electorate of area proposed 1 Oct 2019 – 10-15**

**Electorate of area proposed 2024 (estimate) – Approx 11-16**

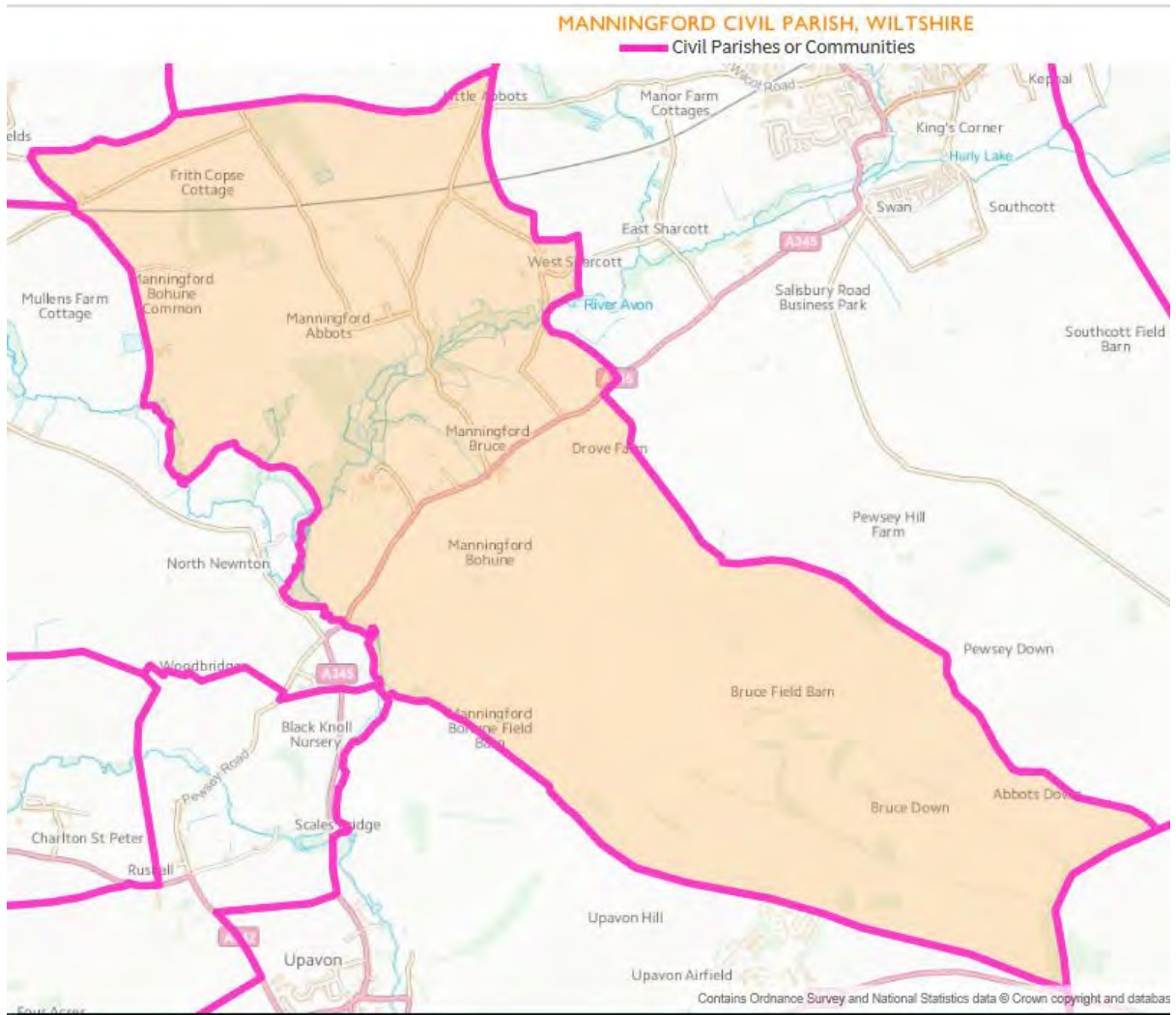
#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

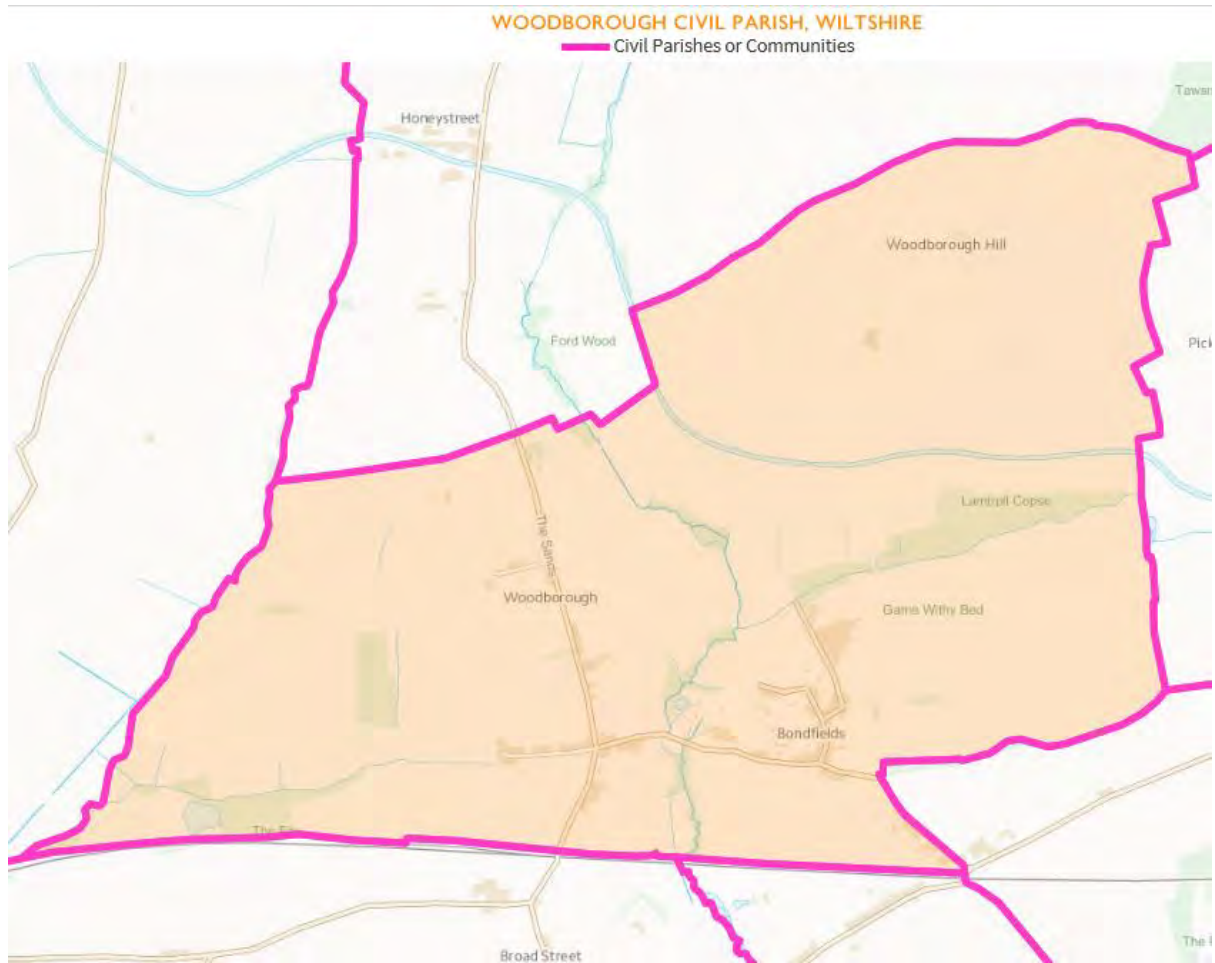
Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Manningford Parish Council	21.92	25.57	29.23	32.88	40.19	47.49	54.80	65.76
Woodborough Parish Council	29.23	34.10	38.97	43.84	53.58	63.32	73.07	87.68

## Map of Area

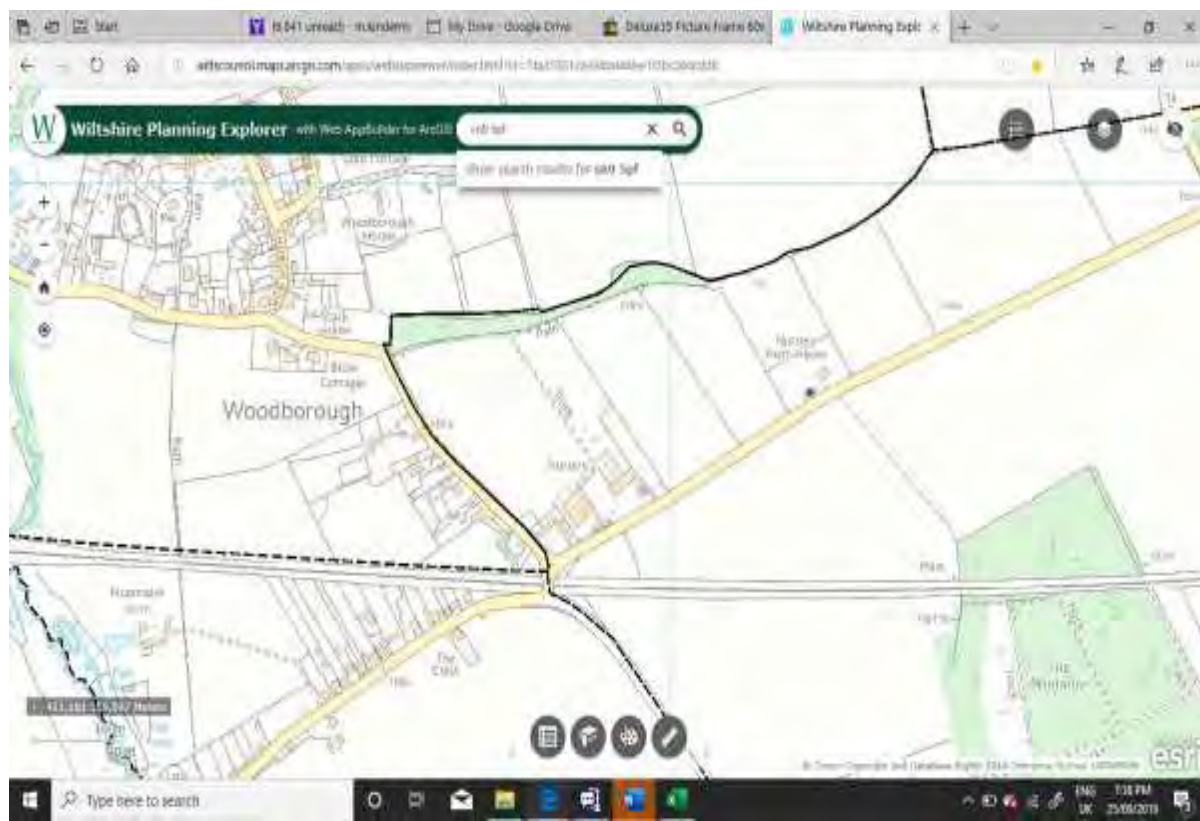
### Map of Manningford Parish

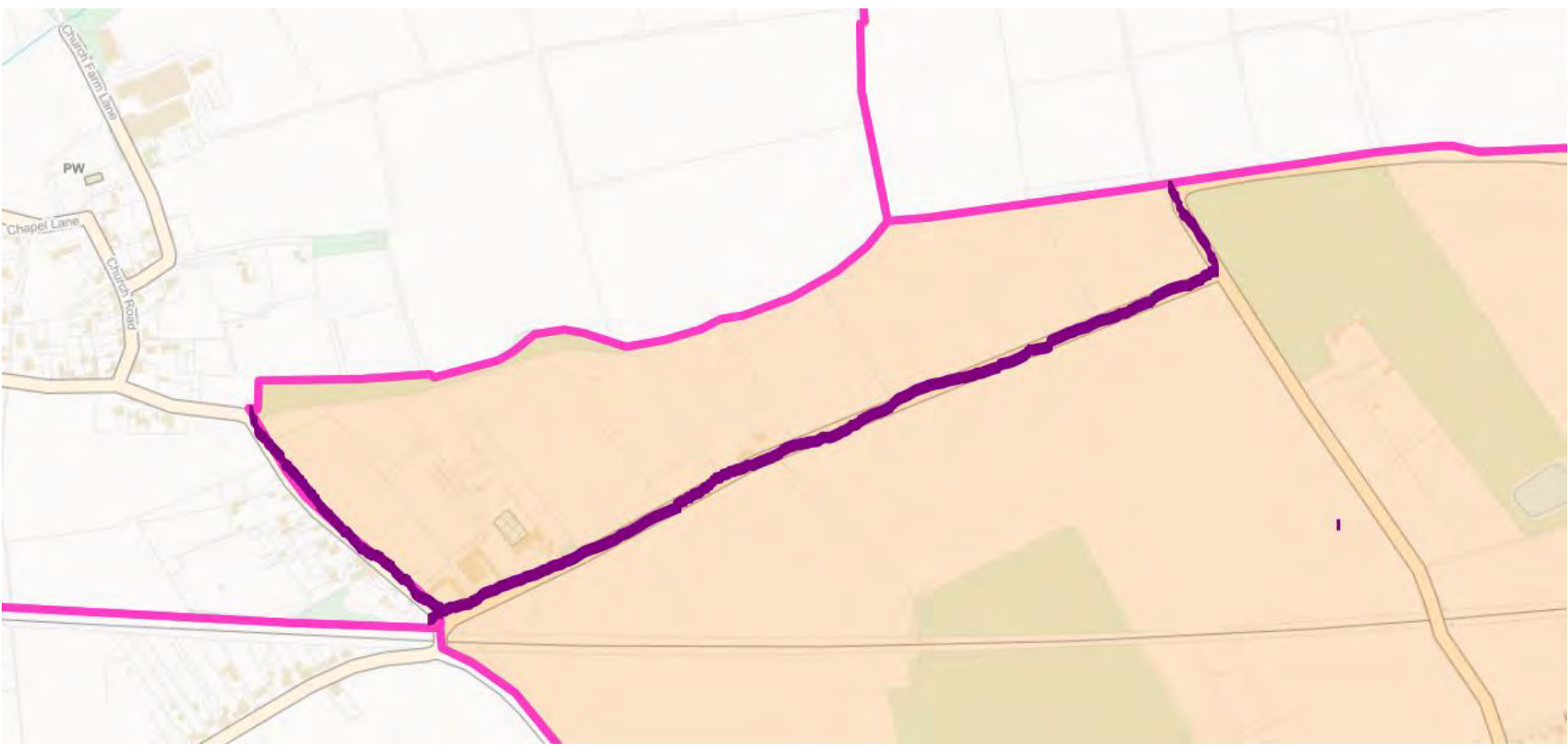


## Map of Woodborough Parish



Map of proposed area





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# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 82: Yatton Keynell

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### Proposal

Move 'The Barn', Substation and Golf Academy on the B4039 which form the entry to Tiddlywink and Yatton Keynell, from Chippenham Without to Yatton Keynell.

Wiltshire Council additional: To consider whether to request that the LGBCE adjust the boundaries of the Unitary Divisions to make them coterminous with the town boundary, should the above change be approved

#### Reason

[Submission from Yatton Keynell Parish Council, the proposer](#)

**Electorate of Yatton Keynell Parish 1 October 2019 - 651**

**Electorate of Chippenham Without 1 October 2019 - 144**

**Electorate of area proposed 1 October 2019 – 0**

**Electorate of area proposed 2024 (projected)<sup>1</sup> - 0**

#### Council Tax by Parish, including Police and Fire Precepts

*This data is provided for information, however please note that Community Governance Reviews cannot use the level of precept in affected areas as justification to approve or disapprove of a scheme.*

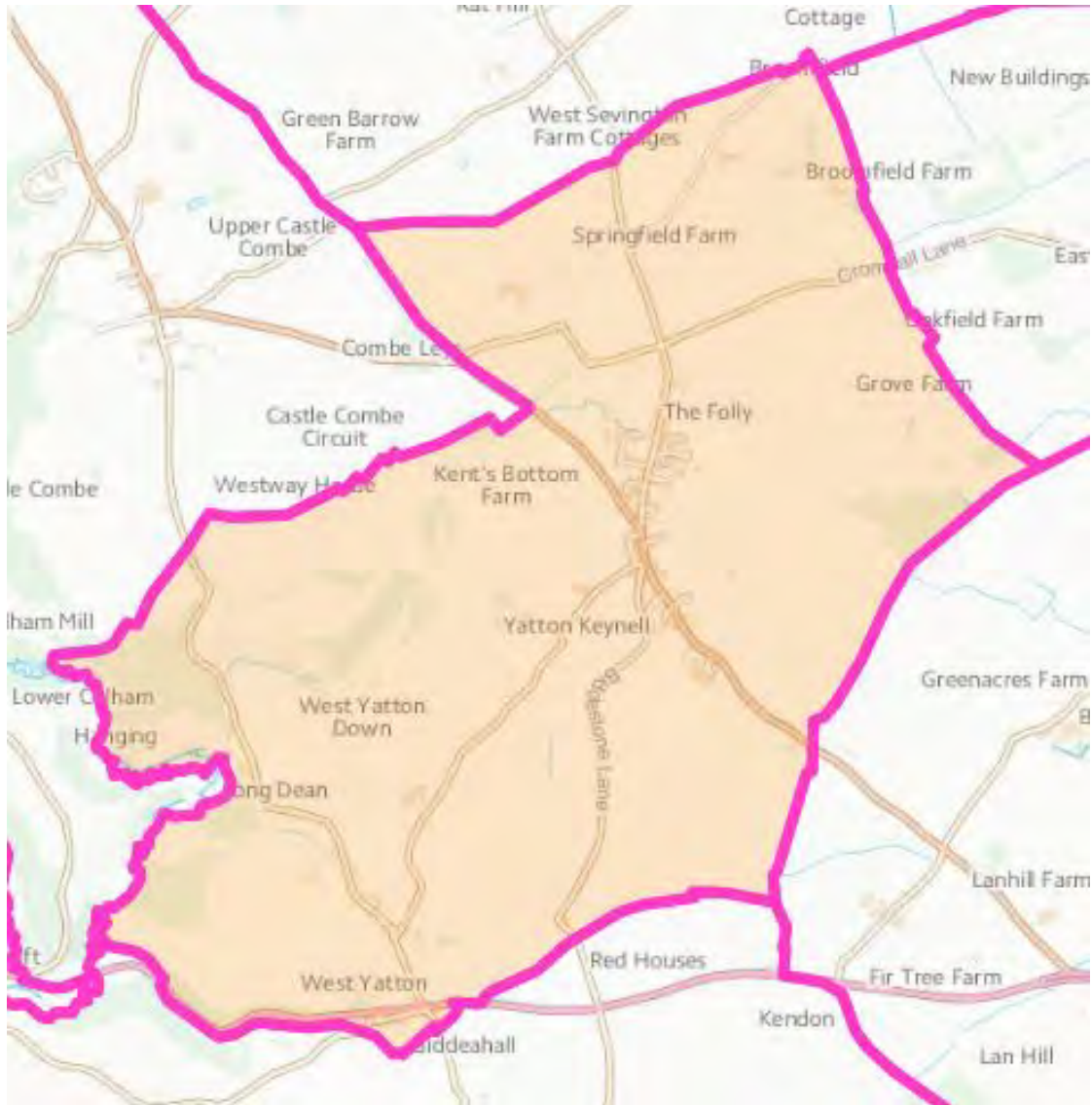
Council Tax Schedule 2019/2020 (monthly)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Yatton Keynell Parish Council	25.39	29.62	33.85	38.08	46.54	55.00	63.47	76.16
Chippenham Without Parish Council	64.89	75.70	86.52	97.33	118.96	140.59	162.22	194.66

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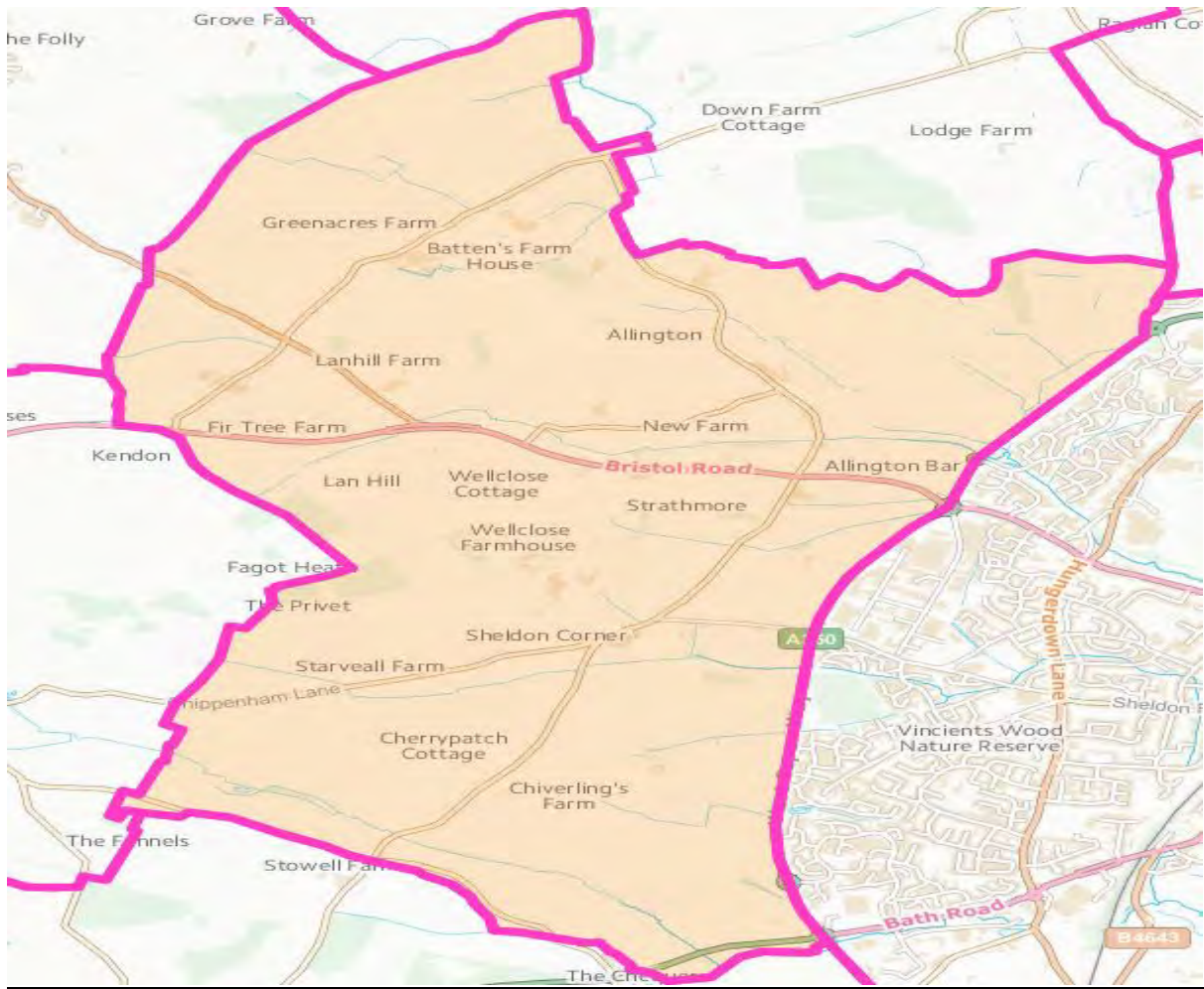
<sup>1</sup> As part of the 2018/19 Electoral Review of Wiltshire Council electorate projections taking into account population growth and projected development up to 2024 were produced, and updated in September 2018. These figures, used by the LGBCE, have been utilised for the Community Governance Review.

## Map of Area

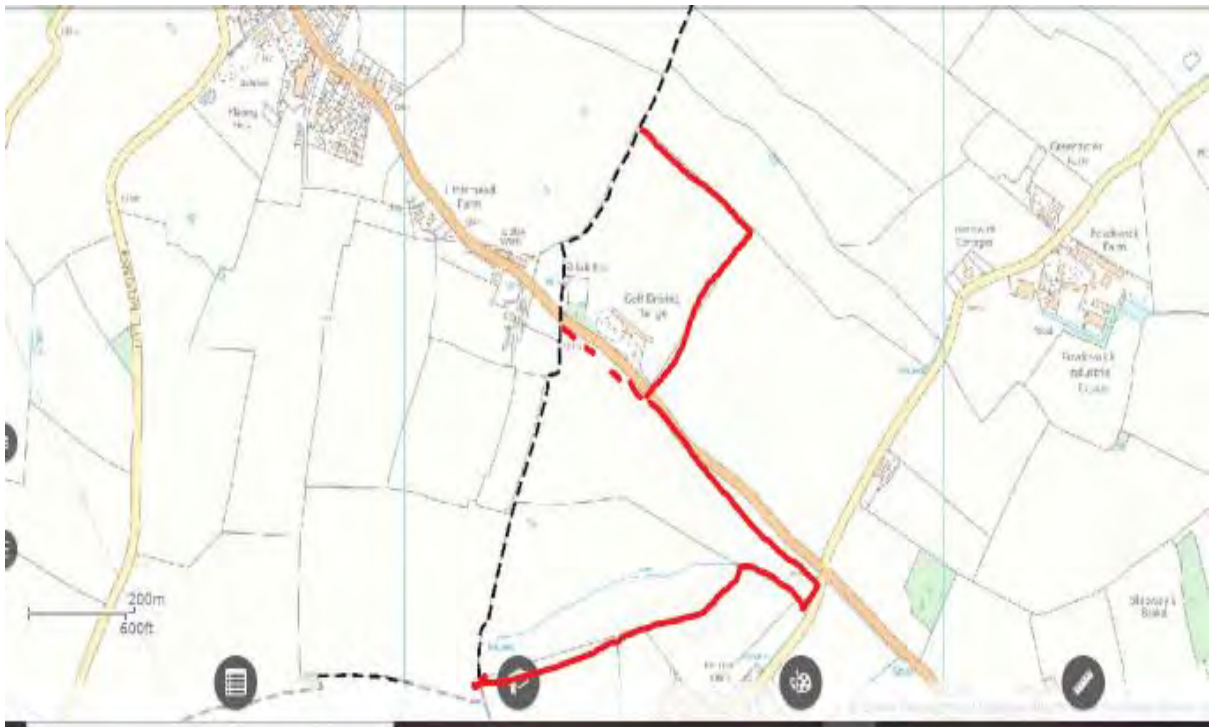
### Map of Yatton Keynell Parish



## Map of Chippenham Without Parish



Map of proposed area



# Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019-2020

## Information Sheet

### Scheme 83: Seend 2

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[CGR Terms of Reference](#)

[CGR Guidance](#)

#### **Proposal**

Seend Parish Council seats to be reduced from 11 in number to 9.

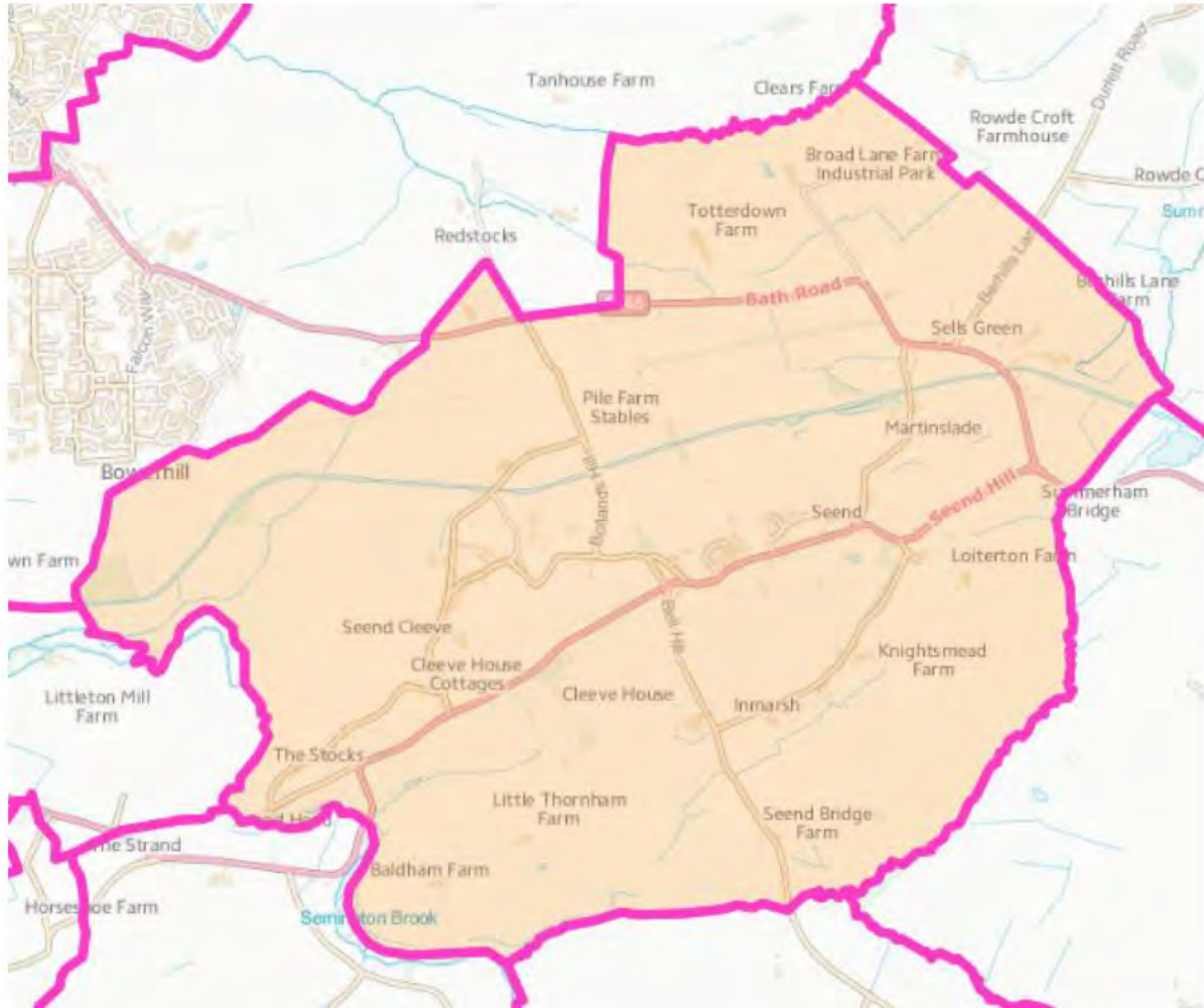
#### **Reason**

[Reasoning provided by member of public submitting scheme](#)

**Seend Electorate 1 Oct 2019 – 913**

**Seend Electorate 2024 (Projected) – 935**

## Map of Seend



Contains Ordnance Survey and National Statistics data © Crown copyright and database right 2016

## Community Governance Review Request Form

Name of Town/City/Parish: **Melksham Without Parish Council**

Governance change requested:

(Tick all that apply)

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

Details of requested change(s):

**Land to east of Spa Road, Melksham.**

***New Barratt David Wilson development known as Hunters Wood.***

***To move the new housing development against the following planning application from Melksham Without Parish Council to Melksham Town Council.***

18/04644/REM layout and scale for the erection of 447 dwellings, car parking including garages, internal access roads, public open space and associated infrastructure and engineering works

Works commenced on site in August 2019. A handful of dwellings in the development are in the Town parish as is the site of the new community centre to be provided with s106 funding, but the remainder of the development is in Melksham Without at present.

Reason for requested change(s):

Melksham Without Parish Council serves the local villages around the town of Melksham, and has always prided itself on its local knowledge of, and sensitivity to, the concerns of its communities and its desire that the rural nature of the parish and the individual character of its constituent villages and communities are preserved. However, it does recognise that when a new housing development sits better within the parish of the Town Council then it should be transferred to them.

In line with the “Guidance on community governance reviews” by the LGBCE this meets with *8b Community Cohesion* and *15 reflecting local identities (e.g. new housing developments)* as the parish council provided street names to tie in with the existing development abutting the new development to give a sense of belonging. The new housing development has been named after herbs and so reflecting the flower/shrub names of the development the other side of Snowberry Lane but giving it its own sense of place. This development is another phase of the previous development of 800 dwellings east of Melksham that were transferred to the Town parish, at the request of Melksham Without Parish Council under the last Community Governance review for the same reason - that it was an extension of the town and thus sat better in the Town parish.

In line with *16 & 85 strong, clearly defined boundaries* this would make the boundary the edge of the housing development but also the extension of the current boundary of the Eastern Way distributor road which is to be continued southwards as part of the development and ties in very well with Western Way which is the boundary between Melksham Without and Melksham Town to the west.

This development is also part of the proposals for the Wiltshire Council review by the LGBCE which raised concerns about community cohesion and electoral representation if the LGBCE go with their plans for this area, rather than the divisions for this area proposed by Wiltshire Council/Melksham Without Parish Council/Melksham Town Council. The new boundary proposed by this change matches the proposed WC/MWPC/MTC Wiltshire Council division boundary.

**Date of council resolution(s):** Full Council meeting Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**Detail of council resolution(s):**

**Minute 101/19 Wiltshire Council Boundary Review**

**c) Community Governance Request to Wiltshire Council**

*Resolved 1: The Parish Council put forward a request to Wiltshire Council for a Boundary Review and show, as with the previous Boundary Review in 2016, that the Parish Council acknowledges where development sits better with the Town, and that the 100 dwellings at Sandridge Place and the 450 dwellings to extend the east of Melksham should be transferred to the Town. However, where development does not fit with urban areas, that the rural nature and parish boundaries are respected. The Parish Council also requests that as the Kennet & Avon Canal is a physical boundary that the BRAG canal picnic area is transferred from the parish of Seend to Melksham Without; The Clerk to have an informal conversation with Seend Clerk to explain the reasoning behind this request. 2: A copy of this request to Wiltshire Council to be sent to Melksham Town Council and Seend Parish Council*

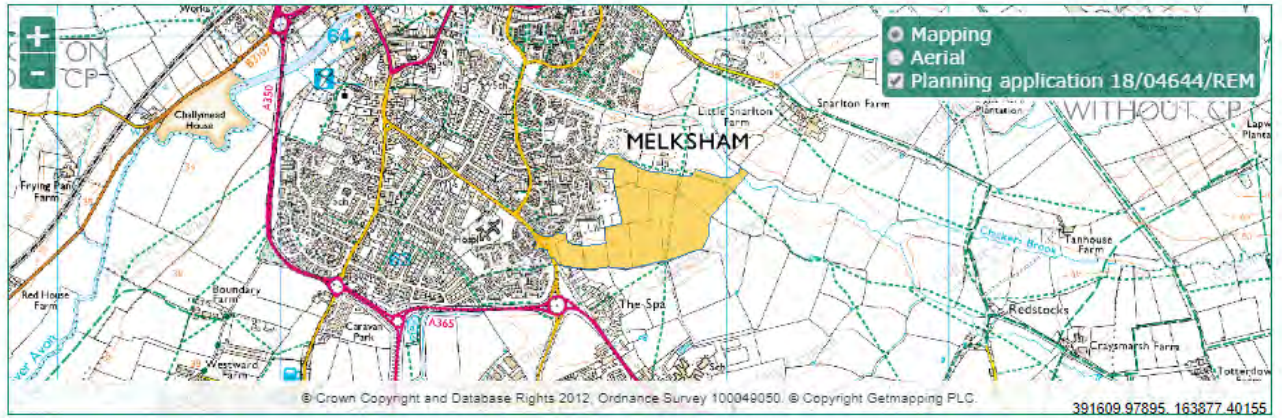
**Proposer signature:** 

**Proposer position:** Teresa Strange, Clerk, Melksham Without Parish Council

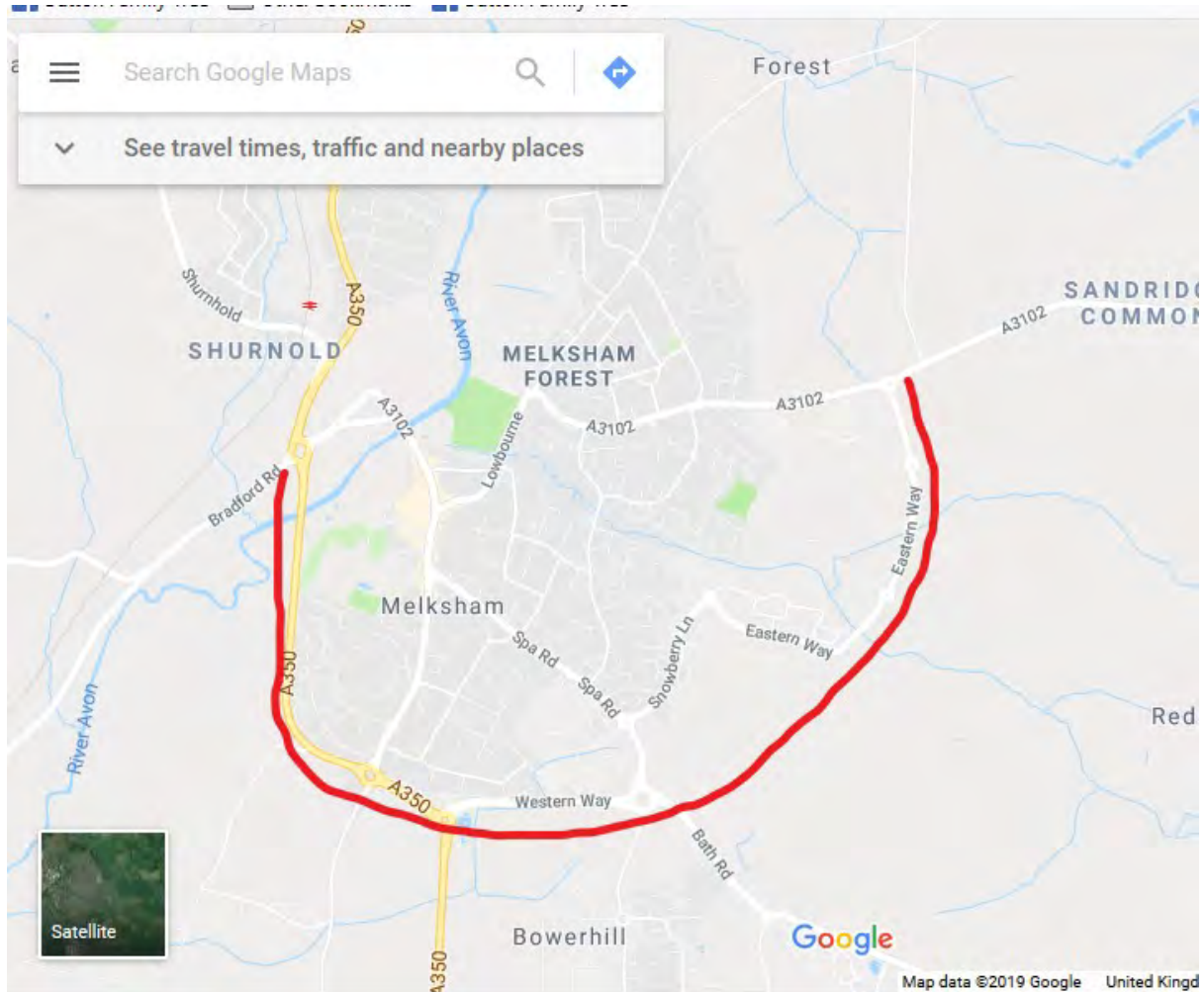


Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):

Map showing planning application 18/04644/REM



New boundary would reflect extension of distributor road:



## Community Governance Review Request Form

Name of Town/City/Parish: **Melksham Without Parish Council**

Governance change requested:

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

Details of requested change(s):

**Land to the north of Sandridge Common, Melksham, SN12 7JR**

***New Barratt Homes development known as Sandridge Place.***

***To move the new housing development against the following planning application from Melksham Without Parish Council to Melksham Town Council.***

17/01096/REM 100 dwellings with associated access, infrastructure, parking, landscaping and local area of play.

Occupation commenced in October 2018 and is ongoing.

Reason for requested change(s):

Melksham Without Parish Council serves the local villages around the town of Melksham, and has always prided itself on its local knowledge of, and sensitivity to, the concerns of its communities and its desire that the rural nature of the parish and the individual character of its constituent villages and communities are preserved. However, it does recognise that when a new housing development sits better within the parish of the Town Council then it should be transferred to them.

In line with the "Guidance on community governance reviews" by the LGBCE this meets with *8b Community Cohesion* and *15 reflecting local identities (e.g. new housing developments)* as the parish council provided street names to tie in with the existing development abutting the new development to give a sense of belonging. The new housing development have been named after historic British prime

ministers in line with the neighbouring Churchill Avenue in the Town parish. During the planning process the parish council requested a connecting footpath between this new development and the existing one to physically aid the integration of the existing development with the new, which was included in the planning permission.

In line with *16 & 85 strong, clearly defined boundaries* this would make the boundary the edge of the housing development with rural fields the other side, and follow the current line in the same direction.

This development also falls under a separate Wiltshire Council division (in the review awaiting a decision by the LGBCE) and would therefore necessitate its own parish council ward if remaining in Melksham Without which would be very small with only 100 dwellings and therefore not tenable or meeting the guidelines for effective representation.


**Date of council resolution(s):** Full Council meeting Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**Detail of council resolution(s):**

**Minute 101/19 Wiltshire Council Boundary Review**

**c) Community Governance Request to Wiltshire Council**

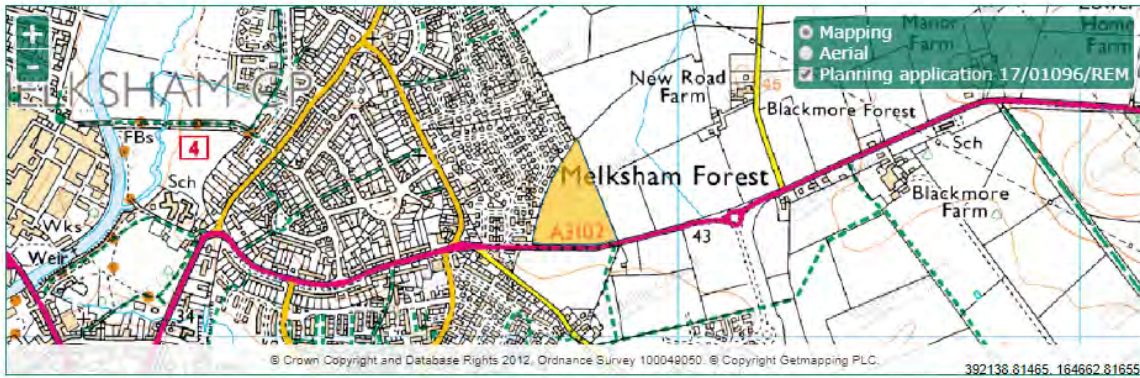
**Resolved 1:** *The Parish Council put forward a request to Wiltshire Council for a Boundary Review and show, as with the previous Boundary Review in 2016, that the Parish Council acknowledges where development sits better with the Town, and that the 100 dwellings at Sandridge Place and the 450 dwellings to extend the east of Melksham should be transferred to the Town. However, where development does not fit with urban areas, that the rural nature and parish boundaries are respected. The Parish Council also requests that as the Kennet & Avon Canal is a physical boundary that the BRAG canal picnic area is transferred from the parish of Seend to Melksham Without; The Clerk to have an informal conversation with Seend Clerk to explain the reasoning behind this request. 2: A copy of this request to Wiltshire Council to be sent to Melksham Town Council and Seend Parish Council.*

**Proposer signature:** 

**Proposer position:** Teresa Strange, Clerk, Melksham Without Parish Council

**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**

Map showing planning application 17/01096/REM



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**From:** [Teresa Strange](#)  
**To:** [Elliott Kieran](#)  
**Subject:** Redistribution of "Hunters Wood" councillor if MWPC proposal accepted  
**Date:** 12 November 2019 10:59:20  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear Kieran

With reference to your query below, if the proposal for "Hunters Wood" to be transferred from Melksham Without to Melksham Town was accepted, then the parish council request that the councillor from that Ward be moved across to the Beanacre, Shaw & Whitley Ward which will be actually be for Beanacre, Shaw, Whitley and Woodrow under the latest LGBCE final recommendations.

The reasoning behind this is that the ward of just Shaw & Whitley used to have 3 members, and at the last CGR had the Beanacre area included in the ward but no increase in members, and will now have the addition of Woodrow residents the other side of the river. (In the 1990s that ward used to have 4 members).

On typing this I realise we might need an updated name for this ward....

We also looked at the projected elector numbers for 2024 (that we sourced from the Wiltshire Division paperwork) and the average number of electors per councillor would be:

Shaw & Whitley 1,141 + Beanacre 290 + Woodrow 259 = 1,690 divided by 4 cllrs = 422 (but 563 if only 3 members)  
Berryfield 880 divided by 2 cllrs = 440  
Bowerhill 3,990 divided by 7 cllrs = 570 but if Sandridge Common transferred to Melksham Town then Bowerhill will be less 117 electors = 3873 divided by 7 cllrs = 553 (but these electors are not so spread out geographically as they are in Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre & Woodrow.

Hope that makes sense,  
With kind regards,  
Teresa

Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill, Melksham  
Wiltshire, SN12 6TL  
01225 705700  
[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
[www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

Want to keep in touch?  
Follow us on facebook: Melksham Without Parish Council or Teresa Strange (Clerk) for additional community news  
On twitter: @melkshamwithout  
On Instagram: melkshamwithoutpc

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---

**From:** Elliott, Kieran <Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 24 October 2019 10:32  
**To:** Teresa Strange <clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: FURTHER TO DECISION ON WILTSHIRE COUNCIL DIVISIONS - Formal CGR requests for MWPC (relating to boundary with Melksham Town Council)

Hello,

Whilst the review itself will be commencing before that date the first stage includes invitations for further submissions, so I do not see a problem with Melksham Without clarifying their position on, should their proposal be accepted, how they wish their councillors organised afterwards, on that date.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**

---

**From:** Teresa Strange [<mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk>]  
**Sent:** 24 October 2019 10:27  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran <[Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: FURTHER TO DECISION ON WILTSHIRE COUNCIL DIVISIONS - Formal CGR requests for MWPC (relating to boundary with Melksham Town Council)

Thanks Kieran, is first thing on Tues 12<sup>th</sup> November too late to let you know on that? As then I could leave it to the Full Council to decide and not call a separate meeting for this item?

Best wishes  
Teresa

---

**From:** Elliott, Kieran <[Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 24 October 2019 09:52  
**To:** Teresa Strange <[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)>; Mulhall, Maggie <[Maggie.Mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Maggie.Mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Alford, Phil <[Phil.Alford@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Phil.Alford@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: FURTHER TO DECISION ON WILTSHIRE COUNCIL DIVISIONS - Formal CGR requests for MWPC (relating to boundary with Melksham Town Council)

Hello Teresa,

If it were agreed to recommend to Full Council that the Hunters Wood area be transferred to the Town, at the same time it could be recommended to amend other parish governance arrangements if appropriate, for instance amending the councillor numbers within the remaining wards. Any such changes, if approved by Full Council, would need to be consented to by the LGBCE because of the area being impacted by the recent Electoral Review. So if the parish already has an idea of how you would like the councillors reallocated around the parish wards in the event the changes are agreed, you can send those in and the Committee, if in agreement, can include it as part of their recommendations.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**

---

**From:** Teresa Strange [<mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk>]  
**Sent:** 23 October 2019 19:02  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran <[Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)>; Mulhall, Maggie <[Maggie.Mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Maggie.Mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Alford, Phil <[Phil.Alford@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Phil.Alford@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** FURTHER TO DECISION ON WILTSHIRE COUNCIL DIVISIONS - Formal CGR requests for MWPC (relating to boundary with Melksham Town Council)

**Copy to:** Wiltshire Cllr Phil Alford (Melksham Without North)  
Melksham Without South currently vacant

Dear Kieran and Maggie

I write further to the full council meeting of Melksham Without Parish Council on Monday evening, when they considered any changes/amendments to their parish CGR requests further to the decision of the LGBCE on the Wiltshire Council unitary divisions.

With regard to these two requests for land currently in Melksham Without proposed to be transferred to Melksham Town, we would like the opportunity to discuss these two areas with you to understand the implications to the parish



council in terms of warding and parish council numbers. The parish council wish to retain 13 councillors as present and as per the final recommendations (and as an odd number to aid decision making) but wish to understand how this would work with the proposed CGR requests made by the parish council. The proposal to transfer the land east of Spa Road would be the parish ward the LGBCE have named Hunters Wood, and the request for land to the north of Sandridge Common would be from the Bowerhill Ward. With the whole of the Hunters Wood ward being proposed to be transferred to the town council, how would the councillor be re-absorbed back into the other wards. We wish to understand this to see if they parish council wish to make any alterations to their current requests, or additional requests in terms of split of councillors per wards.

Would we be able to pop into County Hall and meet with you and maps – it worked really well last time..... unless there is a clear cut answer you can give us?

**234 We are providing revised parish electoral arrangements for Melksham Without parish.**

Final recommendations	
Melksham Without Parish Council should comprise 13 councillors, as at present, representing four wards:	
Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Melksham Without (Beanacre, Shaw & Whitley)	3
Melksham Without (Berryfield)	2
Melksham Without (Bowerhill)	7
Melksham Without (Hunters Wood)	1

With kind regards,  
Teresa

Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill, Melksham  
Wiltshire, SN12 6TL  
01225 705700  
[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
[www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

Want to keep in touch?  
Follow us on facebook: Melksham Without Parish Council or Teresa Strange (Clerk) for additional community news  
On twitter: @melkshamwithout  
On Instagram: melkshamwithoutpc

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---

**From:** Teresa Strange  
**Sent:** 10 September 2019 18:46  
**To:** Kieran.elliott ([Kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)) <[Kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Linda Roberts <[clerk@melksham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@melksham-tc.gov.uk)>; Mulhall, Maggie <[Maggie.Mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Maggie.Mulhall@wiltshire.gov.uk)>; Alford, Phil <[Phil.Alford@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Phil.Alford@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Formal CGR requests for MWPC (relating to boundary with Melksham Town Council)

Copy to Melksham Town Council

Cllr Phil Alford (Melksham Without North)

Dear Kieran

Please find attached the formal requests from Melksham Without Parish Council for the two CGR requests that relate to the boundary with Melksham Town Council.

Kind regards, Teresa

Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill, Melksham  
Wiltshire, SN12 6TL  
01225 705700  
[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
[www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

Want to keep in touch?

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On twitter: @melkshamwithout

On Instagram: melkshamwithoutpc

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## Community Governance Review Request Form

Name of Town/City/Parish: **Melksham Without Parish Council**

Governance change requested:

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

Details of requested change(s):

**Boundary between Melksham Without and Seend**

***To move the existing boundary from Seend Parish Council to Melksham Without Parish Council encompassing BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) canalside picnic area.***

There are no dwellings or electors that would be affected by this change.

Reason for requested change(s):

To move the existing boundary between Seend Parish and Melksham Without Parish to follow the Kennet & Avon Canal further eastwards from Melksham Park Farm to the drain running northwards towards Carnation Lane to encompass all the farmland north of the canal and the BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) canalside picnic area.

Melksham Without Parish Council proposed this change at the last Community Governance Review but unfortunately the request was not accepted. Since that time however, Melksham Without Parish Council have continued to provide the BRAG team with financial, operational and moral support throughout this time and still very strongly believes that this area has a strong community identity and a sense of place with the community of Bowerhill in Melksham Without and not with Seend; as has been demonstrated since the last CGR.

The picnic area and the bridleway access to it from Brabazon Way at the edge of Bowerhill Industrial Estate and from Locking Close and Bowerhill Lane in the residential part of Bowerhill is owned by Wiltshire Council but maintained by both Melksham Without parish council and BRAG volunteers, including local Bowerhill businesses and not by Seend residents or Seend parish council.

The hedges and grass verges on the bridleway are maintained by local businessman (agricultural machinery) Colin Bush who resides in Locking Close, Bowerhill and was originally laid out and still maintained by local farmer and groundwork contractor owner Ed Bodman from Bowerhill Lane. Whether its bark chippings or compost deliveries, they all are delivered via Bowerhill and moved by equipment and labour by Ed Bodman and the volunteers. The BRAG volunteers litter pick the bridleway and picnic area daily as part of their route around Bowerhill and then deposit the waste at the picnic area large oil drum bin; as do the local boaters using the canal and the many visitors. This oil drum bin is emptied weekly by the Melksham Without Parish Caretaker on a weekly basis (loading on a sack truck and wheeling on foot down the bridleway) and twice a week in the summer months. The cost of this time, the holiday cover by contractors and the cost of disposing of the waste is all borne by Melksham Without parish council and ultimately their residents via the Precept, and not by Seend parish council. Melksham Without parish council also provides annual funding to BRAG to cover their own public liability insurance when working in the area and covers their assets such as picnic tables and noticeboards on the parish council insurance and maintenance schedule. There have been several spates of mindless vandalism at the picnic area over the last couple of years and the parish council has provided police liaison, and as mentioned before, moral support to the demoralised team of volunteers. We have also worked with the Rights of Way team and volunteers from the West Wilts Ramblers to put in a kissing gate from the permissive path to Brabazon Way to allow the many visitors to the area to remain safe and not to slip into the road down the slope from the field. The picnic area and bridleway are consistently used by residents of Bowerhill and the wider Melksham area. It has such regular use by students of Bowerhill primary school (not Seend primary school) and the local Bowerhill nurseries, child minders and pre-schools; it “belongs” to the people of Bowerhill. BRAG has two representatives from Melksham Without Parish council as part of its official reps, but other Bowerhill ward councillors are also members and Wiltshire Councillor Roy While always attended meetings too (as member for Melksham Without South).

The ultimate frustration is that due to its special qualities the Bowerhill community are trying to get the area designated as “Local Green Space” to give it another layer of protection as an important community space. However, this cannot be done in the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan as not in the Plan area as outside the parish boundary of Melksham Without and so we have been doing the legwork and providing the evidence from residents etc for the Seend Neighbourhood Plan, Seend residents having not provided sufficient evidence as they presumably were unaware or did not value the space. The Melksham Area Board meeting on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 resolved that the picnic area is an important community space

and so to add their weight to the evidence being gathered for the Local Green Space designation.


We hope that the above goes some way to emphasise the strength of feeling in the local community that the picnic area and bridleway should sit in the parish of Melksham Without with the Bowerhill community. However, the physical boundary argument is even stronger; the existing boundary is not possible to view on the ground since several of the hedgerows that it used to follow have been removed. In fact, after the last CGR decision I showed the Seend parish Clerk and Chairman the location of the boundary, the bridleway and the picnic area as they were unaware and had never visited those parts of their parish. The canal is a very clear, strong, physical boundary on the ground that everyone can clearly understand and is already the boundary between the two parishes towards the west. Melksham Without parish council still maintain that this is where the boundary should be between Seend and Melksham Without; in line with the LGBCE guidance *8b & 33 reflects the identities and interests of the local community in that area* and *16 put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features and remove anomalous boundaries* and *35 well established residents' associations which local people have set up and make a distinct contribution to the community* and *47 capacity building to develop community's skills, knowledge and confidence* and *48 central to the concept of sustainable communities is community cohesion*.

**Date of council resolution(s):** Full Council meeting Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**Detail of council resolution(s):**

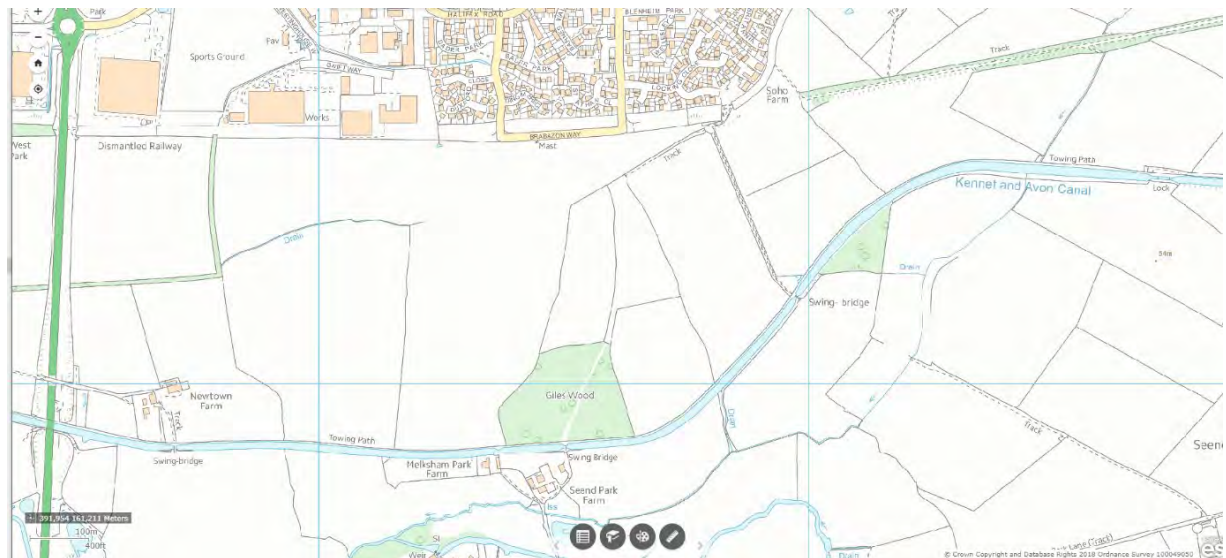
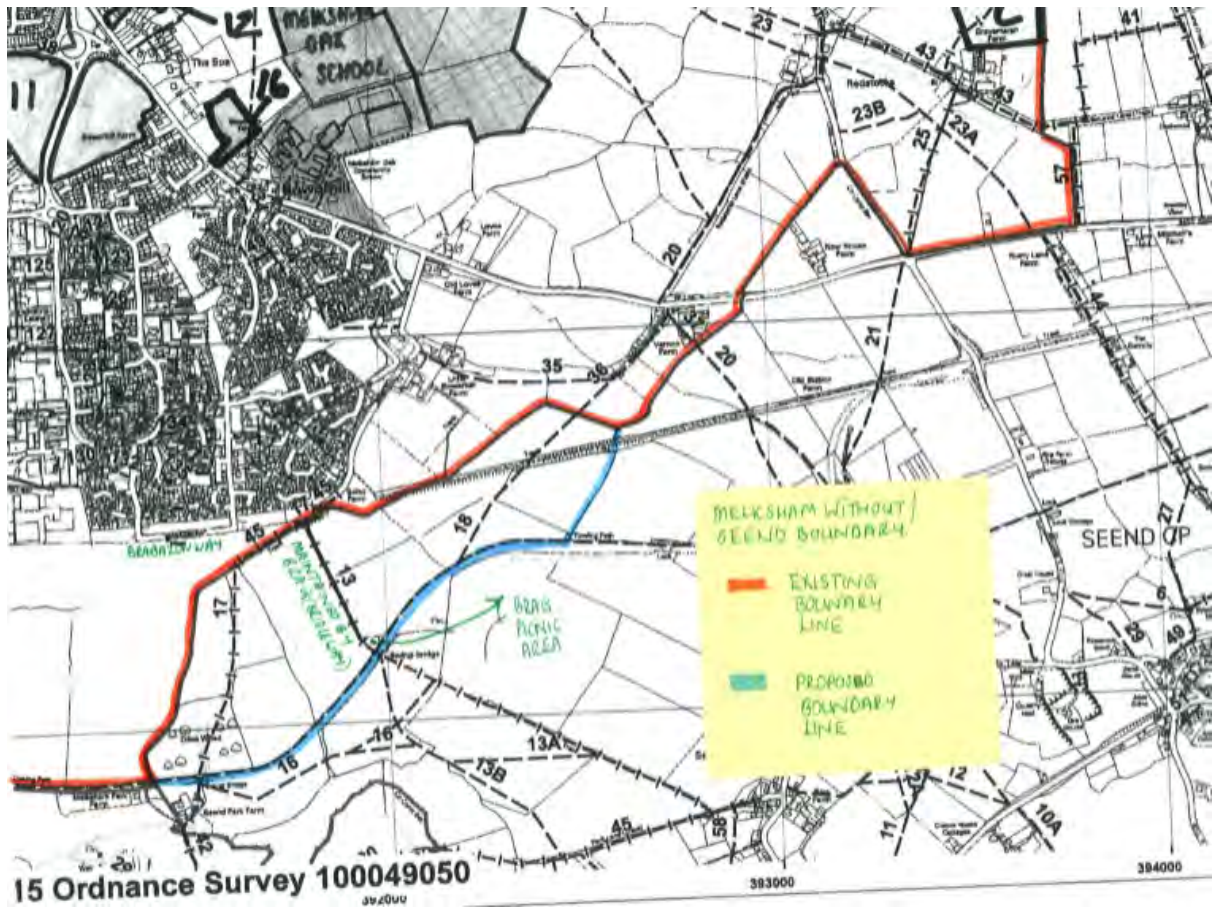
**Minute 101/19 Wiltshire Council Boundary Review  
c) Community Governance Request to Wiltshire Council**

**Resolved 1:** *The Parish Council put forward a request to Wiltshire Council for a Boundary Review and show, as with the previous Boundary Review in 2016, that the Parish Council acknowledges where development sits better with the Town, and that the 100 dwellings at Sandridge Place and the 450 dwellings to extend the east of Melksham should be transferred to the Town. However, where development does not fit with urban areas, that the rural nature and parish boundaries are respected. The Parish Council also requests that as the Kennet & Avon Canal is a physical boundary that the BRAG canal picnic area is transferred from the parish of Seend to Melksham Without; The Clerk to have an informal conversation with Seend Clerk to explain the reasoning behind this request. 2: A copy of this request to Wiltshire Council to be sent to Melksham Town Council and Seend Parish Council.*

**Proposer signature:** 

**Proposer position:** Teresa Strange, Clerk, Melksham Without Parish Council

Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):





SOUTH WEST

The Royal Horticultural Society and South West in Bloom are proud to present

Melksham - Bowerhill res'dts Action Group Picnic Area

---

with a 2019 It's Your Neighbourhood Award of

Level 5 - Outstanding

---

Sir Nicholas Bacon  
President, Royal Horticultural Society



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**From:** [Teresa Strange](#)  
**To:** [Sue Bond](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** MELKSHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL REQUEST TO AMEND THEIR PROPOSAL FOR Community Governance Review- Scheme 11 SEEND (remove Giles Wood)  
**Date:** 11 February 2020 13:14:10  
**Attachments:** [20-01-24 Letter to PC re Comm. Govn. Review.docx](#)

---

To: Seend Parish Council  
CC: Pauline Helps, Secretary, BRAG  
Wilts Cllr Jonathan Seed, Summerham and Seend  
Wilts Cllr Nick Holder, Melksham Without South  
Wilts Cllr Richard Clewer, Chair, Electoral Review Committee  
Community Governance Review officers  
Cllr Alan Baines, MWPC

Dear Sue

Melksham Without Parish Council met last night and approved the request of BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) to remove Giles Wood from their Community Governance Request to move the boundary between Seend and Melksham Without (see attached).

By copy of this email we have also informed the CGR team at Wiltshire Council and the relevant Wiltshire Councillors.

Melksham Without Parish Council would very much like to meet with yourselves to discuss where the boundary line between Giles Wood and the Bridleway to the picnic area could be redrawn..... perhaps with Cllr Seed and the landowners too if appropriate (from MWPC it would be myself and Cllr Alan Baines). We hope that Seend Parish Council will be amenable to this revised request to Scheme 11.

We look forward to hearing from you.....

With kind regards,  
Teresa

Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill, Melksham  
Wiltshire, SN12 6TL  
01225 705700  
[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)  
[www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

Want to keep in touch?

Follow us on facebook: Melksham Without Parish Council or Teresa Strange (Clerk) for additional community news

On twitter: [@melkshamwithout](#)

On Instagram: [melkshamwithoutpc](#)

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-----Original Message-----

From: Pauline Helps [REDACTED] >  
Sent: 24 January 2020 11:42  
To: Teresa Strange <clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk>  
Subject: Community Governance Review- Scheme 11

Hi Teresa

BRAG had their meeting last night and it was agreed that I send the PC a formal letter to ask them to consider a revised proposal to Scheme 11.

This is attached for consideration. I'll write again with other issues arising from the meeting once I have written out the minutes!

Have a good weekend

Regards

Pauline

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
24 January 2020

Teresa Strange  
Clerk, Melksham Without Parish Council  
The Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill  
SN12 6TL

Dear Teresa

**Community Governance Review – Scheme 11, Seend**

Some Bowerhill Residents Action Group (BRAG) members heard the submissions of Mrs Janet Giles about Scheme 11 at the Community Governance Review Public Meeting on Wednesday 22 January and spoke to her afterwards. They also spoke to Jonathan Seed from Seend Parish Council and Richard Wood and Alan Baines from Melksham Without Parish Council about suggesting a revised proposal to Scheme 11.

This revised proposal was discussed at the BRAG meeting on Thursday 23 January and it was agreed that I write to you with this proposal.

Although the Boundary Commission suggested that definite borders, in this case the canal, should be boundaries that is simplistic and not always practical.

Mrs Giles owns Giles Wood, that is the only land she owns north of the canal, and she is adamant that she wants Giles Wood to remain within Seend Parish Council area. BRAG would like the picnic area and the cycle path to come within Melksham Without Parish Council area. The revised proposal that BRAG would like Melksham Without Parish Council and Seend Parish Council to agree is that Giles Wood and the canal towpath alongside remains within Seend Parish Council area and the BRAG picnic area, cycle path and the canal towpath at the southern end becomes part of Melksham Without Parish Council area. Both these areas have defined hedges / canal that can become the new boundary. How the boundary goes around the adjoining fields and other fields mentioned in Scheme 11 BRAG neither Mrs Giles nor BRAG have any significant views, so BRAG would like Seend Parish Council and Melksham Without Parish Council to come to an agreement and if necessary, consult with landowners for their views as to where the boundary goes.

If Melksham Without Parish Council agrees with this revised proposal could they please contact Seend Parish Council to come to an agreement.

BRAG members will be completing their survey forms to this effect.

Yours sincerely

*Pauline Helps*, Secretary, Bowerhill Residents Action Group(BRAG)

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## Community Governance Review Request Form

Name of Town/City/Parish: **TROWBRIDGE**

Governance change requested: *(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

### Details of requested change(s):

Please see attached report and accompanying maps.

Area 1. Land south and west of Elizabeth Way from Hilperton CP.

Area 2. Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension from West Ashton CP.

Area 3. Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension, Elm Grove/Drynham Lane and White Horse Business Park from North Bradley CP.

Area 4. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from North Bradley CP.

Area 5. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from Southwick CP.

### Reason for requested change(s):

All of these areas are allocated for development as part of the Core Strategy or the Wiltshire Housing Sites Allocation Plan or are areas closely associated to these areas for development with clearly identifiable boundaries including natural barriers such as rivers and streams, roads and roads proposed as part of the development. They are all extensions to the town, the main one is described in the Core Strategy as 'An Urban Extension'. The others all contribute to the Trowbridge Town development requirements and not to the village development totals.

**Date of council resolution(s): 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**Detail of council resolution(s):**

*RESOLVED: That Trowbridge Town Council responds to the request from Wiltshire Council as follows:*

*Area 1. Land south and west of Elizabeth Way from Hilperton CP.*

*Area 2. Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension from West Ashton CP.*

*Area 3. Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension, Elm Grove/Drynham Lane and White Horse Business Park from North Bradley CP. NORTH SHEET 1 of 2*

*Area 4. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from North Bradley CP &*

*Area 5. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from Southwick CP.*

*Reason for requested change(s):*

*All of these areas are allocated for development as part of the Core Strategy or the Wiltshire Housing Sites Allocation Plan or are areas closely associated to these areas for development with clearly identifiable boundaries including natural barriers such as rivers and streams, roads and roads proposed as part of the development. They are all extensions to the town, the main one is described in the Core Strategy as 'An Urban Extension'. The others all contribute to the Trowbridge Town development requirements and not to the village development totals.*

**Proposer signature:**

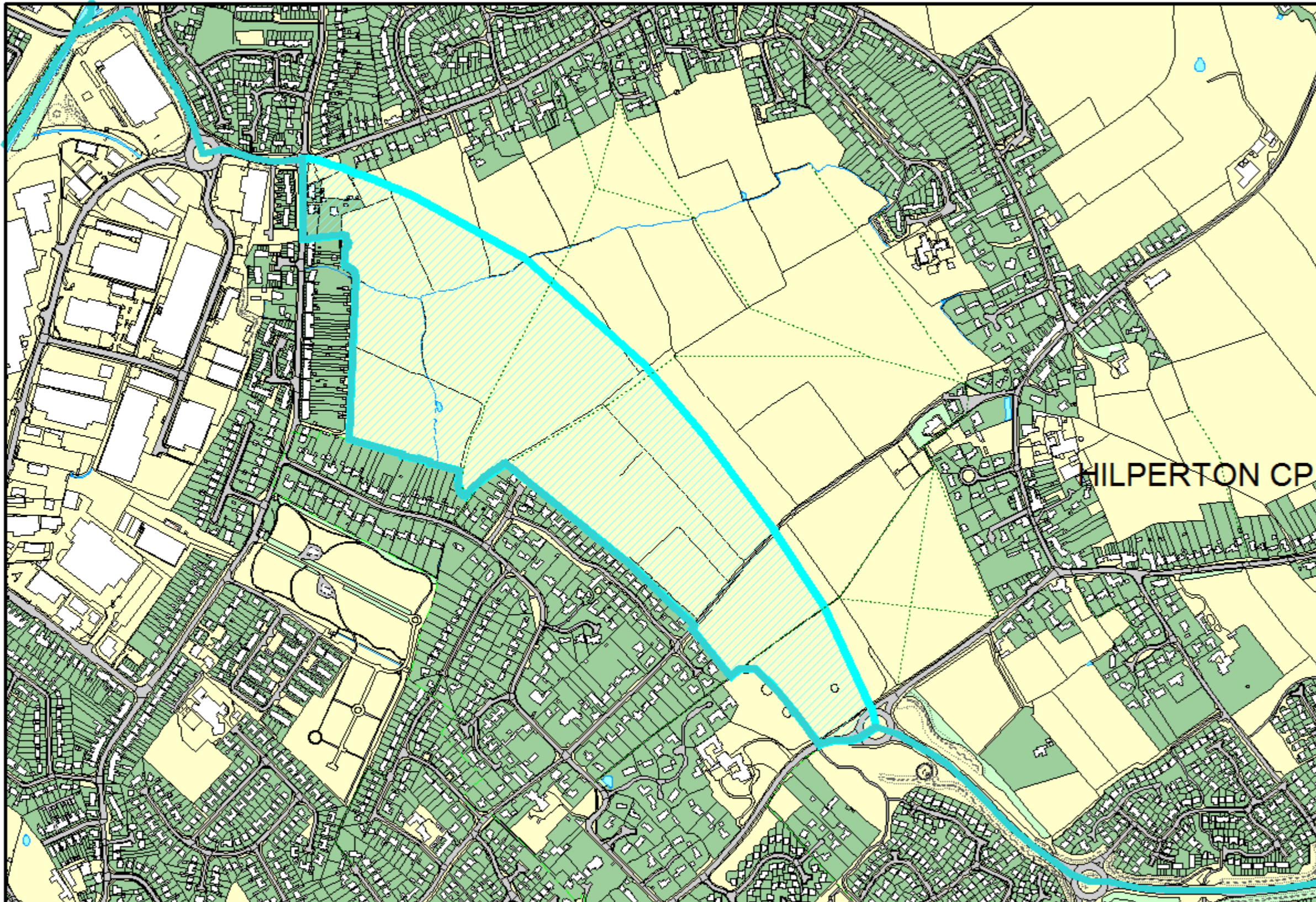


**Proposer position: Town Clerk**

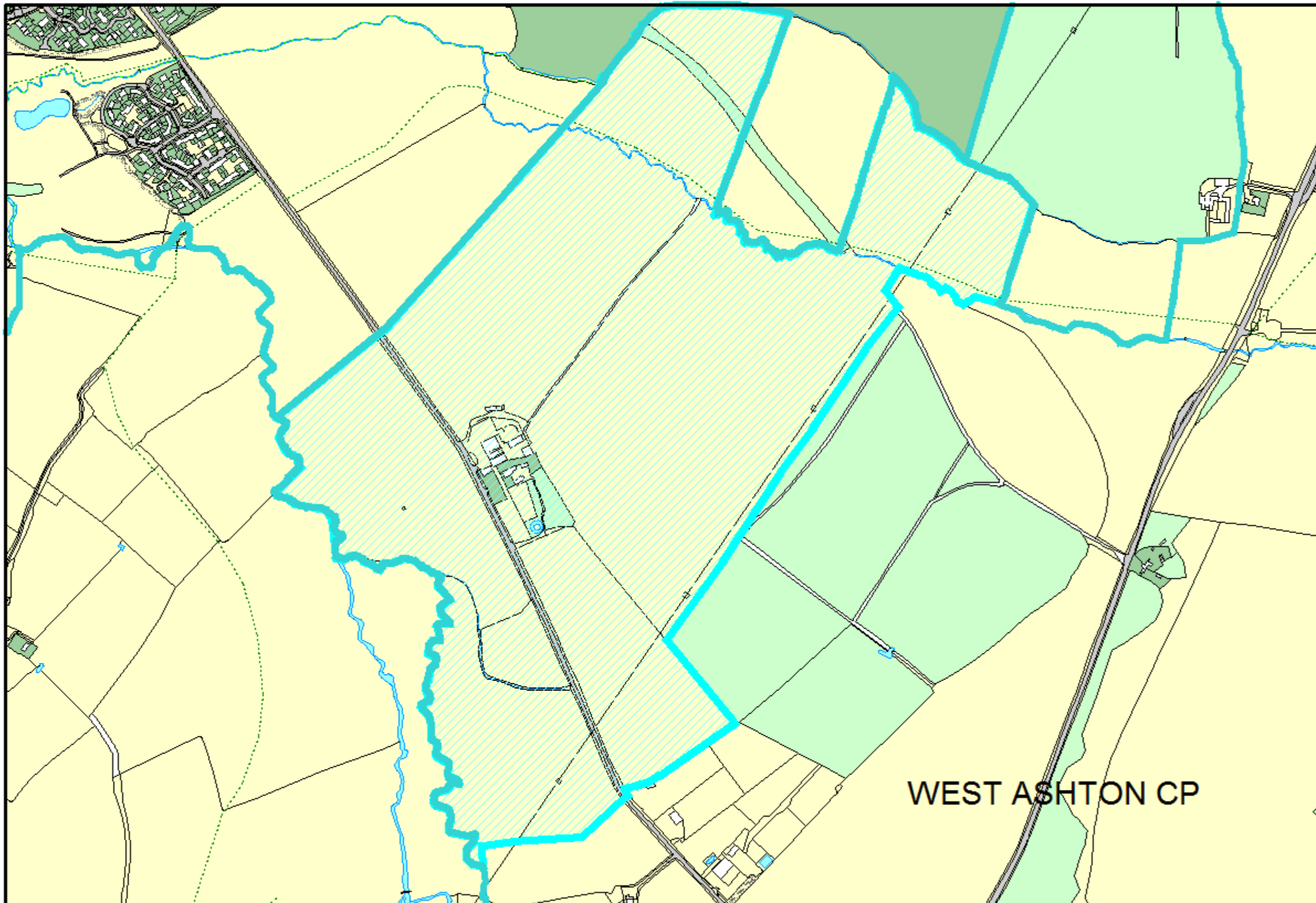
**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**

Please see maps provided on separate sheets.

**Area 1. Land south and west of Elizabeth Way from Hilperton CP.**

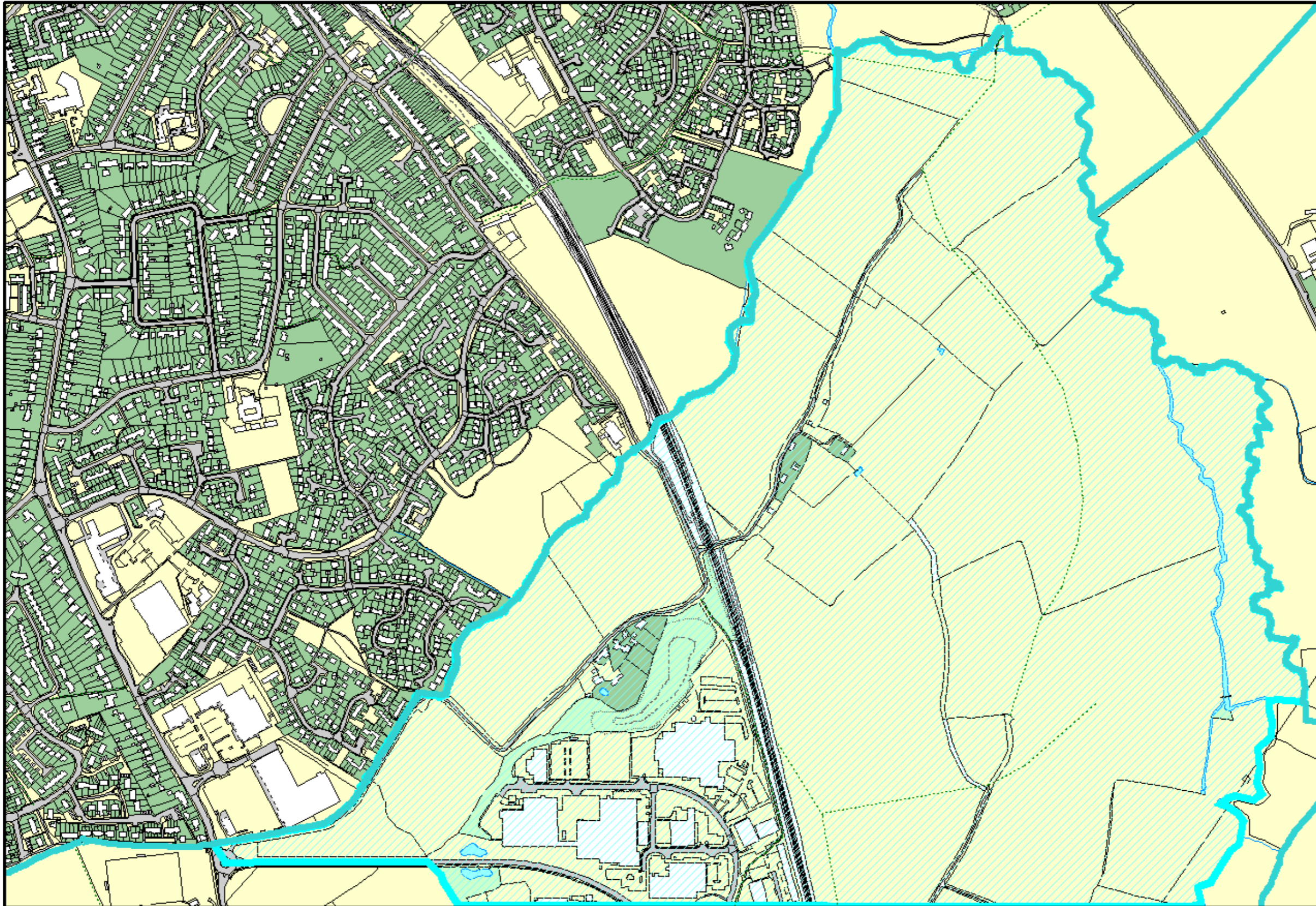


**Area 2. Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension from West Ashton CP.**

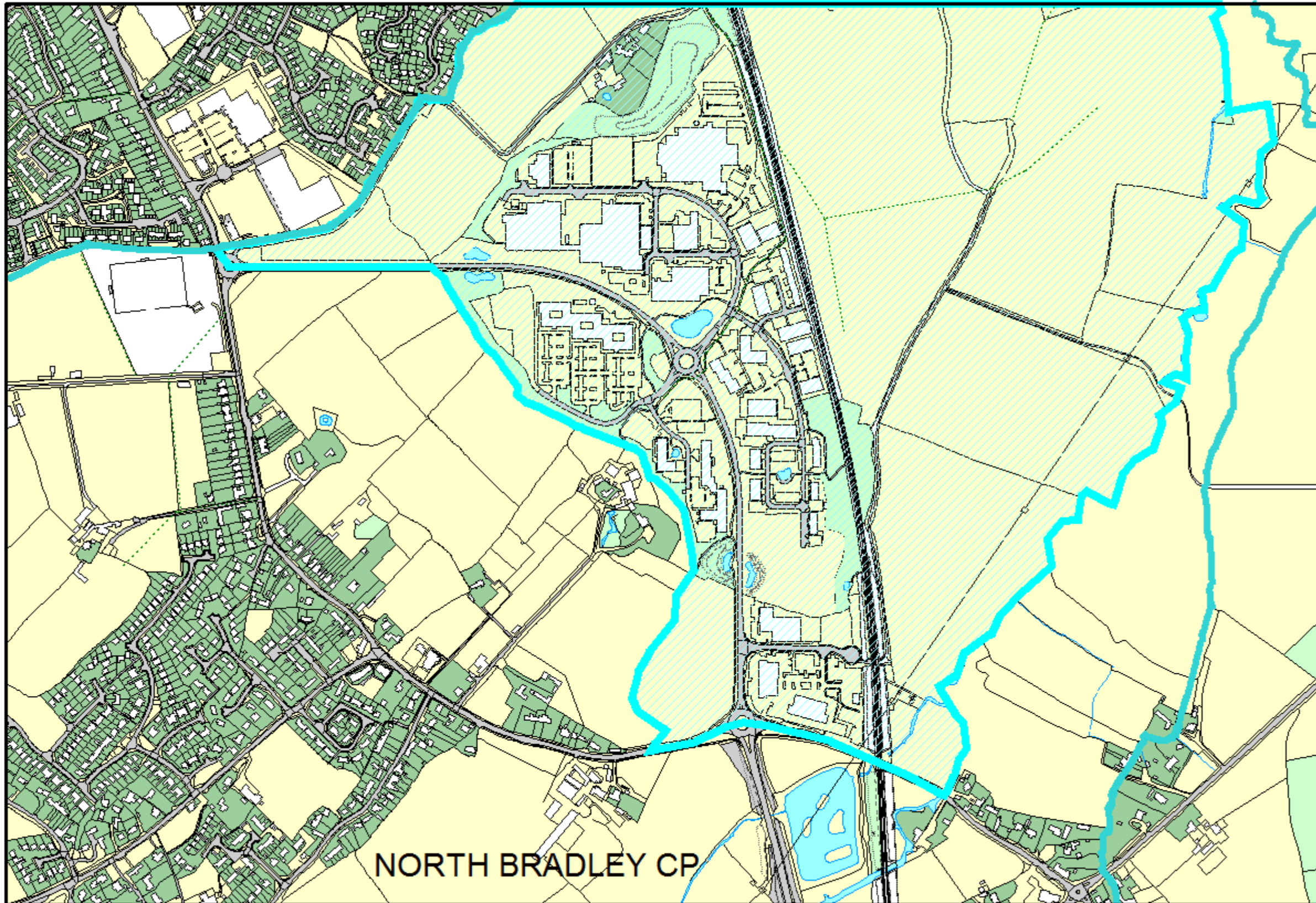




**Area 3. Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension, Elm Grove/Drynham Lane and White Horse Business Park from North Bradley CP – NORTH SHEET 1 of 2**

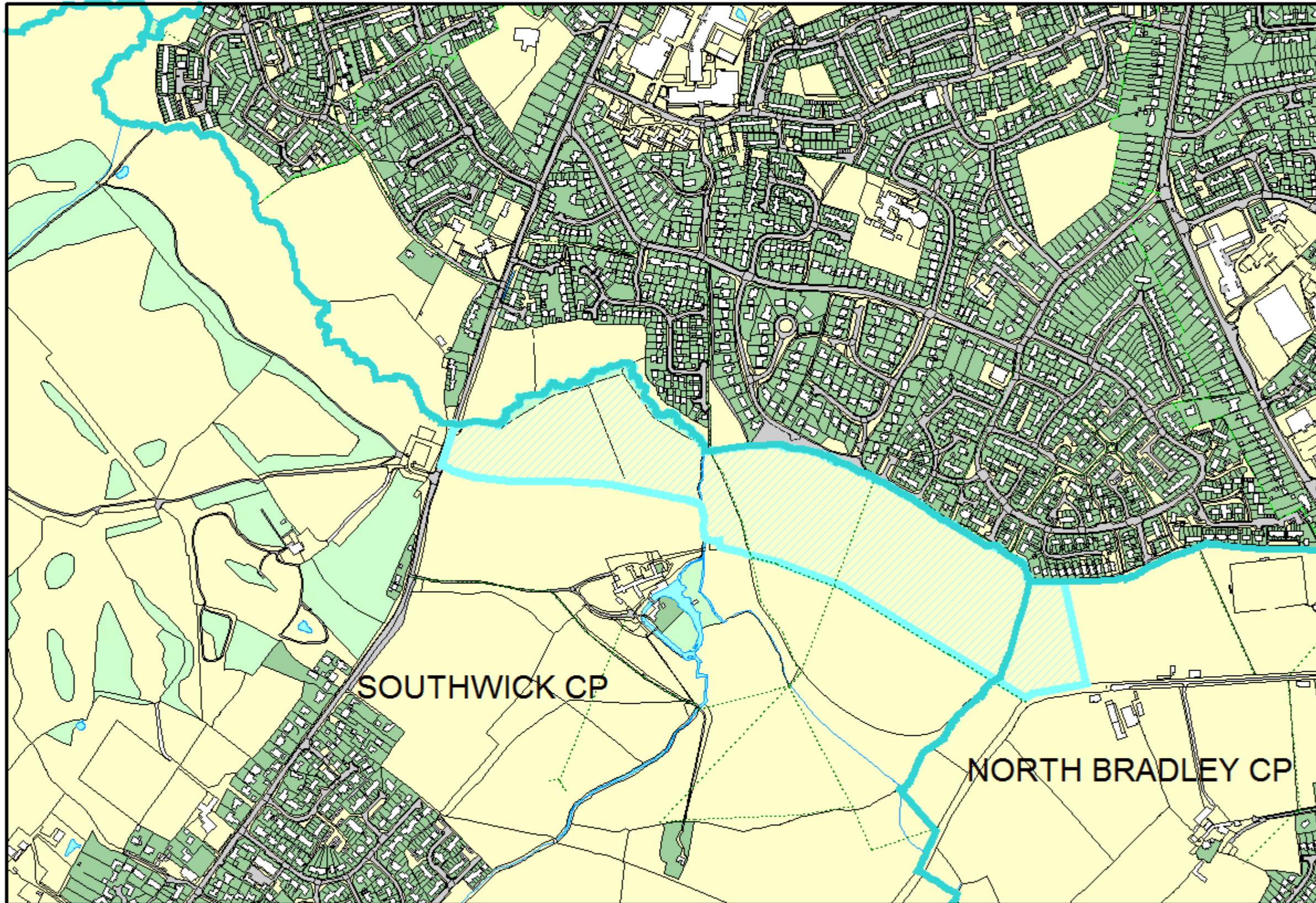


**Area 3. Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension, Elm Grove/Drynham Lane and White Horse Business Park from North Bradley CP – SOUTH SHEET 2 of 2**



**Area 4. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from North Bradley CP &**

**Area 5. Land in the Southwick Court allocation from Southwick CP.**



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## **Community Governance Review Request for Information**

This is a response to scheme 24 – Melksham Merger. The request is submitted on behalf of Melksham Town Council.

### **1. Community Identity & Interests**

Melksham is a historic Market town, situated on the River Avon with a population of approximately 17,000. It has a bustling High Street lined with many listed and significant buildings and a beautiful historic quarter including St Michael's All Angel's Church, Canon Square and Church Walk.

As a thriving rural town with a very active community with a strong sense of community spirit and civic pride, Melksham boasts numerous clubs, groups and classes and annual events including a summer carnival, Party in the Park and the Food & River Festival. The wider community area has a total of 200 community groups. Melksham has, through its community groups and volunteers, been recognised for some outstanding achievements, winning gold in South West in Bloom three years running, and for its magnificent Christmas Light display. The Assembly Hall which is run, managed and maintained by the Town Council is the town's 'village hall', providing a vast array of services to Melksham and the wider community.

Melksham has one senior school, Melksham Oak, located in Melksham Without. It is the only senior school in the entire Melksham Community.

### **2. Effective and Convenient Local Governance**

Melksham Town Council believes that the parish boundary between Melksham Town and Melksham Without has become anomalous in the light of recent housing development.

The completion of residential development on land south of Western Way, Bowerhill, land east of Semington Road, Berryfield, and land east of Spa Road, has meant that the urban conurbation of Melksham has now spread eastwards whilst the urban footprint to the south of the town has also expanded linking Berryfield and Bowerhill. These developments have been left with open space and facilities jointly managed by the Town Council and Parish Council. Decisions about ongoing maintenance and ideas for their development have to go through both councils before decisions can be made.

The expansion of Melksham is set to continue, and the needs of the combined community will grow. From a master-planning and strategic perspective, it makes sense for one Council to serve the whole of Melksham. It is vital that governance of the whole Melksham community is clear, effective and convenient with one point of contact to reflect the identity and interests of that extended community. If Melksham Town and Melksham Without are combined, Melksham will become the fourth largest parish in the county with a population of approximately 25,000. This will offer the town far stronger bargaining power when it comes to leveraging public investment.

In order to thrive even more the town needs to become the central hub for the whole of Melksham and all the surrounding villages, we need to be one Council with one vision to achieve a truly cohesive community, with a strategic forward plan reflecting the view and needs of the entire Melksham community. One administration with one point of contact and one brand will offer strong and accountable, visible local government and leadership for all. One council will best deliver the needs and aspirations of the whole community effectively. By removing a layer of administration, decisions affecting both the town and parish can be taken in the knowledge that they will be invoked without scrutiny from another local government organisation.

The major challenges affecting the town arising from rapid demographic change can be better dealt with through a combined administration. Indeed, local communities should have access to good quality local services ideally in one place. As the Town Council embraces fully the devolution of services from Wiltshire Council the wider community will benefit from the ability of that administration to deliver quality services, economically and efficiently.

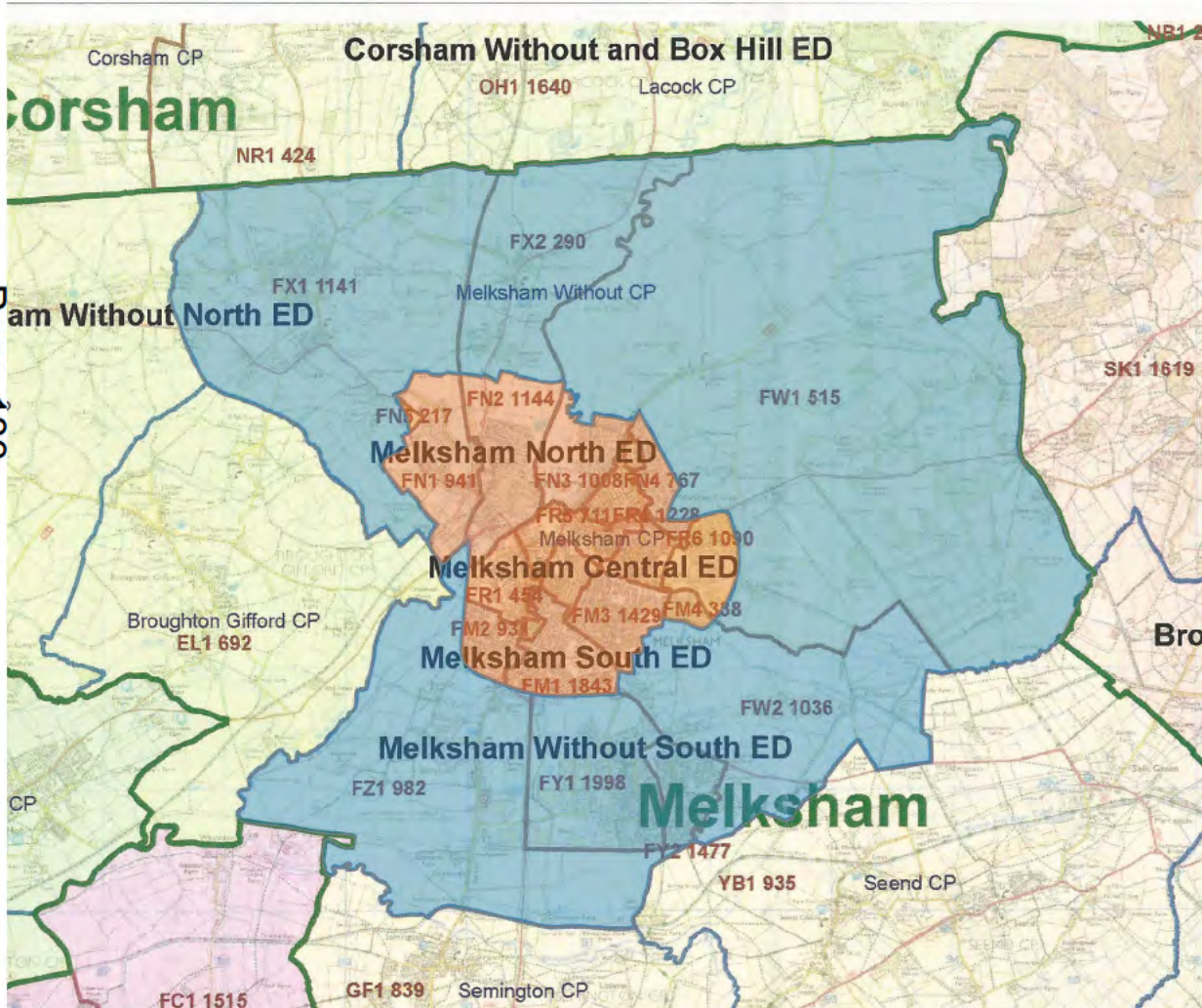
The need to establish strong clearly defined boundaries is a fundamental pre-requisite in reflecting local identity and common interests which local governance arrangements must accommodate and address. It is the Town Council's contention that community cohesion will be best served by the creation of one council working on a common agenda, vision and strategic goals.

Linda Roberts BA (Hons) PGCAP, FHEA, FSLCC  
Town Clerk

Melksham Town Council  
Market Place  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6EF

# Existing Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Councils

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Existing Melksham Without Parish Council



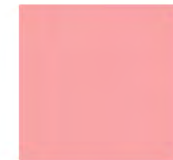
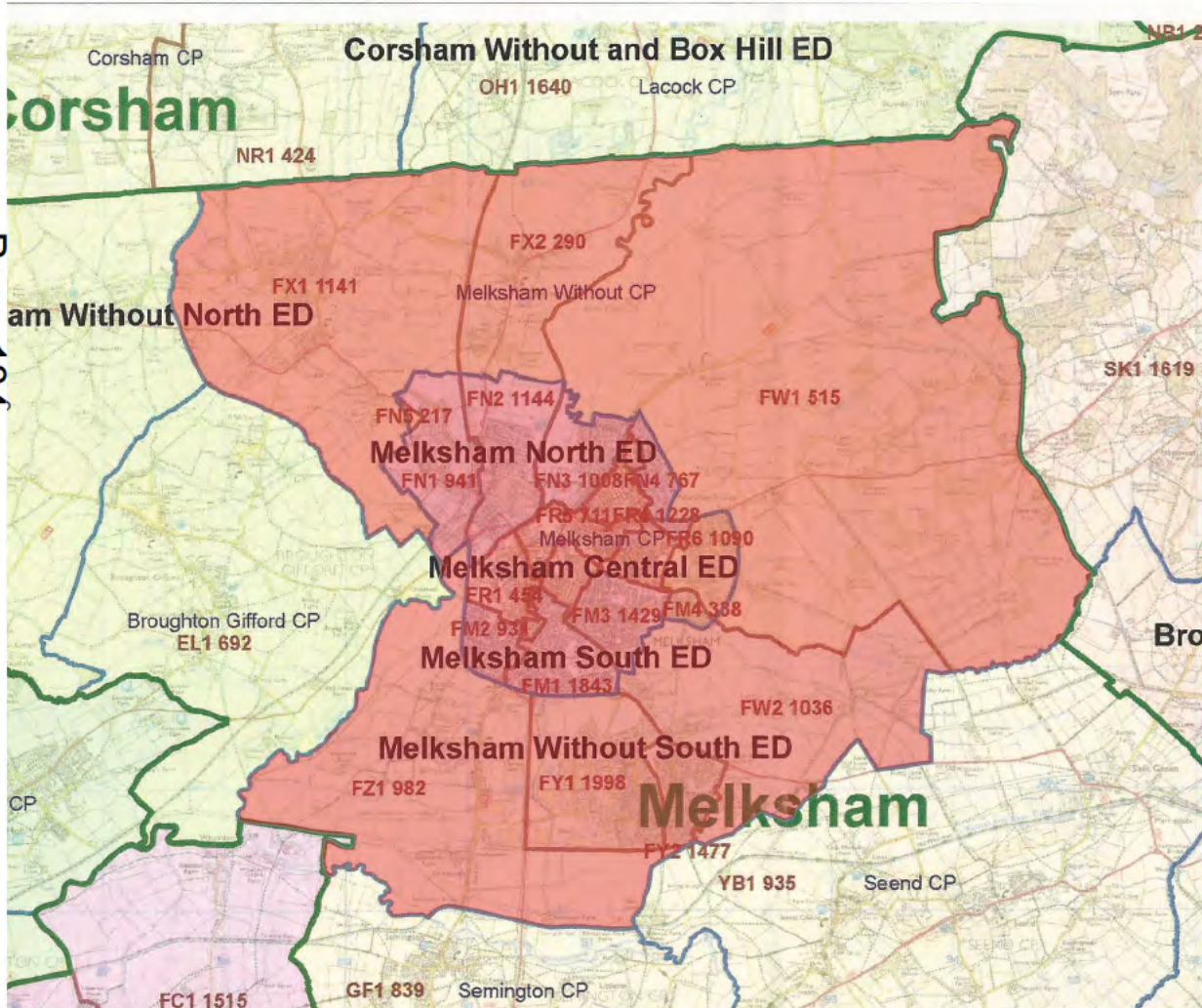
Existing Melksham Town Council



**Melksham Town Council**

# Option A - Combine existing councils into a new Town Council

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Proposed new Melksham Town Council

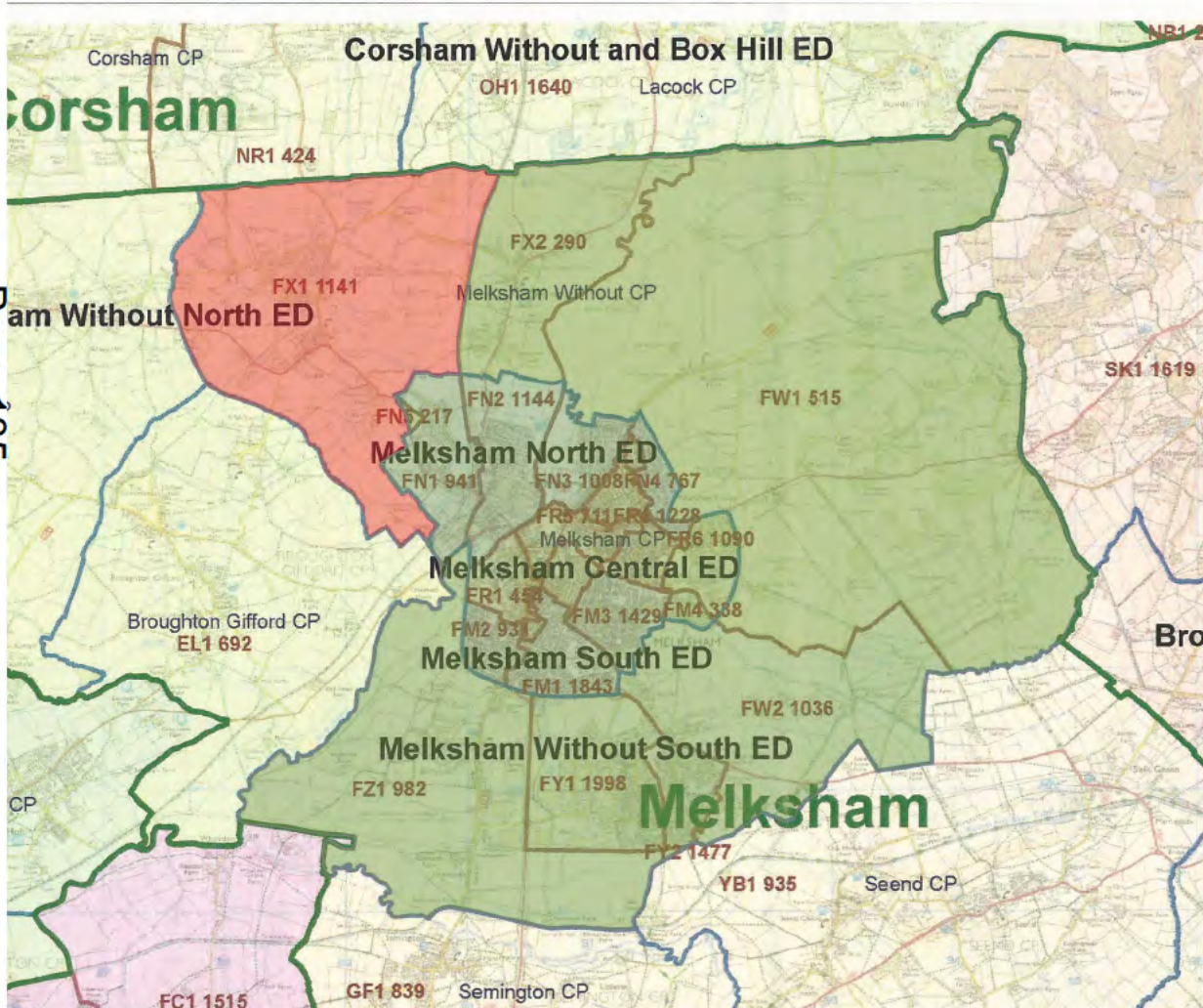


**Melksham  
Town Council**



# Option B - Combine existing councils and create new Town Council Shaw and Whitley Parish Council

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Proposed new Melksham Town Council



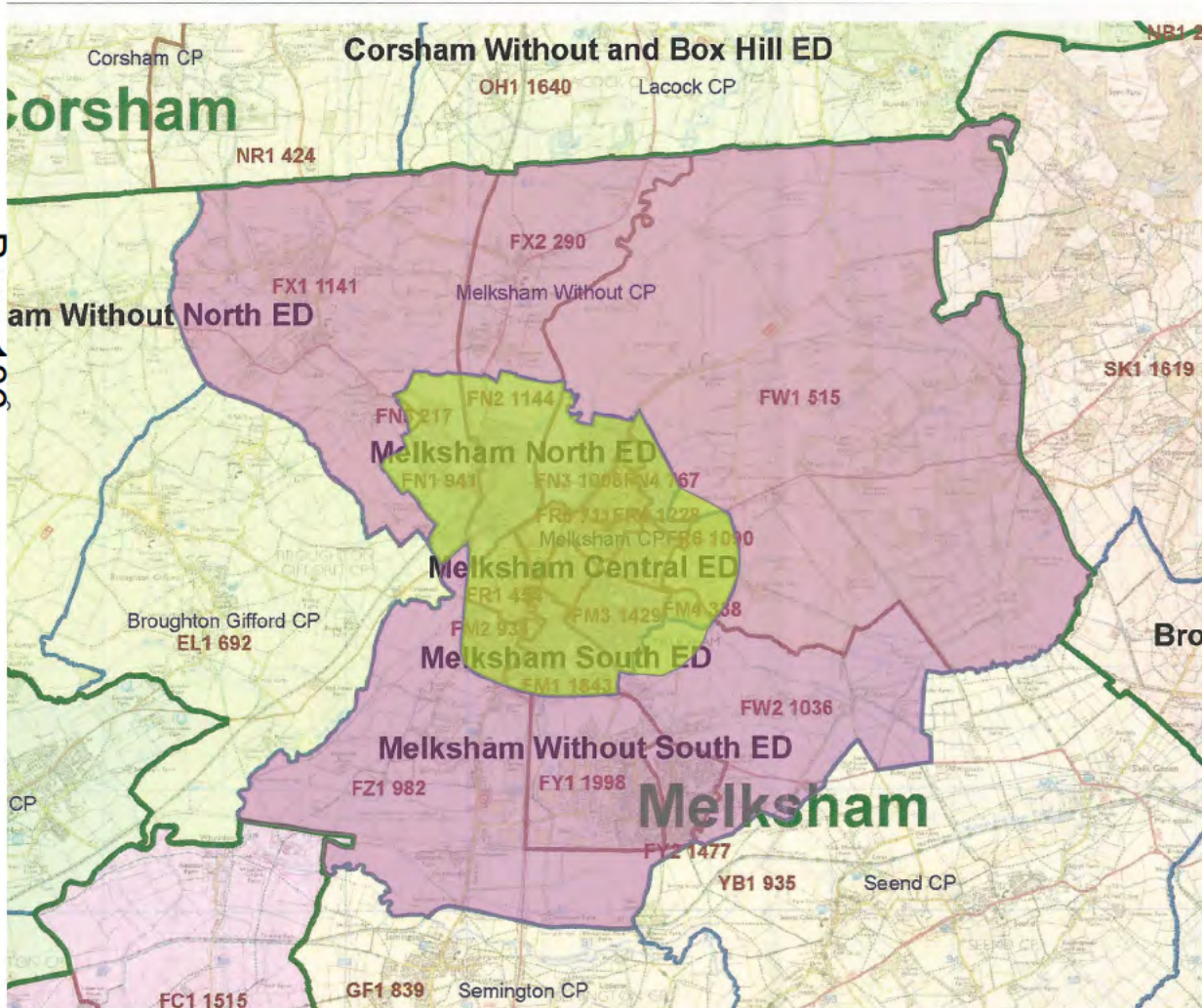
Proposed new Shaw and Whitley Parish Council



**Melksham  
Town Council**

# Option C - Move new housing from Parish into the Town

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Revised Melksham Without Parish Council



Revised Melksham Town Council



**Melksham  
Town Council**

8. A Suggested illustrative Ward structure with two options for seven and five Wards in a new Melksham Council is detailed in the following Tables.

**TABLE B**

**Proposed Seven Ward Allocation for New Integrated Melksham Council**

WC ED	Suggested Ward Description	Polling District	Estimated Voters 2018		Estimated Voters 2024		Cllrs
94	Melksham North  Split approx 20: 80	FN1	684	1900 (633)	941	2392 (797)	3
94		FN2	1101		1144		
94		FN5	35		217		
94		FR1 (part)	80		90		
97	Melksham North East	FN3	969	2403	1008	2691	3
97		FN4	739		767		
94		FW1	308		515		
97		ZY1	2		2		
97		ZY2	4		4		
97		ZY3	6		6		
97		ZZ6	191		198		
97		ZZ7	184		191		
96	Melksham East	FM3	1377	2723	1429	2859	3
96		FM4	326		338		
97		FR6	1018		1090		
97		ZY1	2		2		
98	Melksham South West	FM2	897	2229	931	2616	3
93		FZ1	654		982		
96		ZZ1	10		10		
96		ZZ2	0		0		
96		ZZ3	0		0		
96		ZZ4	132		137		
96		ZZ5	536		556		
96	Melksham South **	FM1	1721	3205	1843	3841	3, 4 or 5
95		FY1	1484	1998			
95	Melksham South East	FW2	156	1579	1036	2513	3
95		FY2	1423		1477		
98	Melksham Central  Split approx 80: 20	FR1 (part)	345	2544	363	2681	3
97		FR2	674		702		
98		FR3	39		40		
98		FR4	1183		1228		
98		FR5	648		711		
96		ZZ8	0		0		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,934</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19955</b>	<b>21 - 23</b>

\*\* Melksham South - extra voters could be addressed by having additional Councillors – either 4 or 5

Based on guidance provided in answer to my question at the 14<sup>th</sup> February pre-consultation meeting in the Assembly Hall, Melksham I have tried to allocate Polling Districts and the number of Councillors per ward to the revised boundaries authorized by the Electoral Boundaries Commission.

TABLE B(ii) below assumes that Option 24(c) is proposed to create a new Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre Parish Council.

## Suggested Five Ward Allocation for New Integrated Melksham Council

ED	Suggested Ward Description	Polling District	Estimated Voters 2018		Estimated Voters 2024		Cllrs
94	Shaw and Whitley Beanacre Parish Council	FX1	1094	1373	1141	1431	tba
		FX2	279		290		
94	Melksham North Split approx. 20: 80	FN1	684		941		4 or 5
		FN2	1101		1144		
		FN5	35	2862	217	3889	
		FR1 (part)	80	(573)	90	(972)	
		FW1	308		515	(778)	
93		FZ1	654		982		
95	Split approx 20: 80 Melksham South East	FM4 (part)	65		67		5 or 6
		FW2	156	3128	1036	4578	
		FY1	1484	(625)	1998	(915)	
		FY2	1423		1477	(763)	
96	Melksham South Split approx. 80:20	FM1	1721		1843		5 or 6
		FM3	1377		1429		
		FM4 (Part)	326		338		
		ZZ1	10	4102	10	4313	
		ZZ2	0	(683)	0	(862)	
		ZZ3	0		0	(718)	
		ZZ4	132		137		
		ZZ5	536		556		
97	Melksham East	FM2	897		931		5 or 6
		FR1 (part)	345		363	3273	
		FR3	39	3112	40	(818)	
		FR4	1183	(659)	1228	(692)	
		FR5	648		711		
		FN3	969		1008		
		FN4	739		767		
		FR2	674		702		
		FR6	1018	3787	1090	3968	
ZY1	2	(757)	2	(992)			
ZY2	4		4	(796)			
ZY3	6		6				
ZZ6	191		198				
ZZ7	184		191				
98	Melksham Forest Split approx. 80 :20	FM2	897		931		4 or 5
		FR1 (part)	345		363	3273	
		FR3	39	3112	40	(818)	
		FR4	1183	(659)	1228	(692)	
		FR5	648		711		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16991</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20021</b>	<b>23 or 27</b>

9. The integrated Ward proposals above seeks to relate adjoining Polling Districts - regardless of their original Town / Parish allocations - to seek a approximate equal balance in the number of voters served by any one Councillor – shown in brackets (voter / Councillor ratio in BLUE.
10. Population growth projection data from various sources for the Melksham Community Area suggested a rise from 24,100 (2006) to 26,590 (2011) and then up to 29,810 (2026) <sup>5</sup>.

## **A COMPARATIVE VIEW OF THE TWO COUNCILS FOR MELKSHAM WITHIN AND WITHOUT.**

Throughout this document I will refer to Melksham Without Parish Council as `the Parish` and Melksham Town Council as `the Town`. All figures are approximate and where averages have been used this will be made apparent.

### **PREAMBLE.**

During the last few years since the Wiltshire Council Governance Review was undertaken there have been many voices raised regarding the governance of Melksham which at the moment is administered by two councils, Melksham Without Parish Council for the rural area and Melksham Within Town council for the conurbation of Melksham Town.

The Parish/Town covers a collective area of 16.5sq miles and if you consider the area as a doughnut shape the Town is in the middle covering an area of 2 sq miles with a population of 16,774. Giving the Parish 14.5 sq miles and a population of 7,970. A total population of 24,744.

The Parish has a tax base (2019/20) of 2,656.84 houses giving a population of 7,970 (Wiltshire Council population guide 1 house x 3 people). The Parish Council Tax is £75. 69 for a Band D property raising a total amount of £201,108. The constituents are represented by 13 councillors (1 cllr per 618) supported by an office staff of three plus two caretakers of varying hours.

In contrast the Town has a tax base (2019/20) of 5,591 houses giving a population of 16,774. The Town Council Tax is £151.13 for a Band D property raising a total amount of £844,910. The constituents are represented by 15 councillors (1 cllr per 1,118) supported by 4 full time and 1 part time staff plus 5 caretakers.

During the next 5 years many more houses will be built towards the east of Melksham with a projected bypass for the east of Melksham within the next 6-8 years. This will increase the built environment with communities that were once standing alone being in filled with houses and becoming joined up.

## **THE QUESTION?**

The main question appears to be “ Is Melksham better served by the abolition of the present two 2 councils Parish and Town, and the creation of one Unitary Council for both areas”.

## **FOR AND AGAINST.**

FOR, the current Town conurbation is being swollen towards the north and east of Melksham by new housing estates and if the bypass is built will encompass those areas in a natural urban setting and boundary. The Pathfinder Way development joining up the community of Bowerhill with the Town forms a coherent geographical area called Melksham Town.

Bowerhill, currently part of the Parish has 1,433 houses with a population of 4,300, 54% of the population of the Parish is bolted onto Bowerhill industrial estate in an area of ½ sq mile out of a total Parish area of 14.5sq miles and the Town considers that this area would fit naturally into the Town. Bowerhill has evolved by various developments over the last 50 years.

There may be scope for modest cost saving on the staffing side but none on the councillor side as they do not get paid.

AGAINST, within the communities of Bowerhill, Berryfields, Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre some say that they consider themselves to be in the rural Parish that they have distinct historical and rural connections to the Parish. That the Parish better understands the needs of their rural area and that merging them into the Town would mean their voice would carry less weight and that the Town may prosper at their rural expense.

There may be scope for modest cost savings on the staffing side but none on the councillor side as they do not get paid.

As it now stands the Town think one council is better with the Parish thinking that the present two is better.

## **WHAT DO THE CONSTITUENTS THINK?**

Two years ago the Annual Parish Council meeting was held in the Shaw village hall, during the chairmen`s address he mentioned the question of one or two councils and reiterated the Parish view that the present two council structure should be maintained. Several councillors were allowed to speak in support, but those for one council were not invited to speak.

At the end of the meeting I put the question to the 70 odd audience, One or Two councils? On a show of hands 95% voted to keep the present two councils.

As one of the six councillors representing the Bowerhill Ward within the Parish and given that 54% of the population of the Parish live in an area of ½ sq mile I decided to ask my constituents what they wanted for Bowerhill.

During April 2018 I posted a card through 1,433 letter boxes asking the question, “ Do you as a constituent of Bowerhill Ward in Melksham Without Parish Council support one council for the whole of the Melksham area or the present two council structure”?

The results were as follows, 74 people replied (5.16%). Of those 37 supported 1 council (50%), 36 supported 2 councils (48.65%) with 1 don`t know (1.35%). I make no personal comment on these findings!

What I would say is that from the two votes those in distinctly rural areas strongly believe in two councils, whilst those of a more ambiguous geographical area by a narrow margin prefer one council or are at least not much interested either way.

As a councillor I support the policy of the Parish in that the Parish wishes to maintain the present two council system and in the spirit of collective responsibility I am bound to support the policy voted on by the whole council. However, I do have a personal view within the conversation, and it is in that capacity, a constituent, that I submit my proposals to the governance review committee for consideration.

Abolish the present two council structure of Parish and Town and replace them with a one Town council for the expanded conurbation of Melksham to include Berryfields, Bowerhill, Pathfinder Way, Hunters Wood and 100 houses north of Sandridge Common forming a natural circle. A council to promote the interests and requirements of an Urban area.

One Parish Council to cover Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre and the Blackmore Ward. A council to promote the interests and requirements of a rural area.

This may satisfy the concerns of the residents of both areas and the present 2 councils particular views.

You could keep the names Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council. Or perhaps, Melksham Council for the urban area and Melksham North Rural Council for the rural area, or Shaw, Whitley & Beanacre Parish Council.

In the case of the new smaller rural Parish there would be no change to the wards or councillors so no cost there. However, a smaller council would require redundancies from the present one. In the case of the new Melksham Council some ward changes and extra councillors but no redundancies, but the redundant rural staff might be picked up by the expanded Town.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your eventual recommendations.

P. C.



## Community Governance Review Request Form

**Name of Town/City/Parish:**

**Governance change requested:**

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

**Details of requested change(s):**

The Parish Council request two minor changes to move some properties from the Pewsham Ward to the West Ward of the Parish. The properties are at Studley Hill and Church Road and East side of Devizes Road, Derry Hill and are shown on the attached maps.

**Reason for requested change(s):**

Following the last Parish Council election, it became clear that some of the Parish Council Ward Boundaries were not well understood by local electors. The Parish Council set up a working group to look at the internal boundaries and resolved on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018 to suggest these changes which move properties into the Ward with which they identify more closely at the next available Governance Review.

**Date of council resolution(s):**

4/06/2018 and 9/09/2019

**Detail of council resolution(s):**

Minute 12 4/06/2018 Agreed: That the properties identified in Plans 2 and 3 on Church Road and Studley Hill and the East side of Devizes Road currently in Pewsham Ward be recommended to Wiltshire Council at its next boundary review for removal and placed into West Ward.

Minute 19 9/09/2019 Agreed: That the Parish Council submit the request to Wiltshire Council to amend the Parish Ward Boundaries between Pewsham Ward and West Ward as agreed on the 4th June 2018. (Please note this is a draft minute until approved at the next Parish Council meeting)

**Proposer signature:**



**Proposer position:**

Clerk



**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**

PLAN 3  
STUDLEY HILL

PROPOSED AREA TO BE  
INCLUDED IN WEST WARD



Calne Without (West Ward) is a joint council with Calne Without (Pewsham Ward), Calne Without (East Ward)  
Without (Sandy Lane Ward) and Calne Without (Middle Ward).

## Electoral Area Boundary

PROPOSED AREA TO BE INCLUDED IN WEST WARD

PLAN 2  
CHURCH RD & EAST SIDE OF DEVIZES ROAD



PLAN 3  
STUDLEY HILL

PROPOSED AREA TO BE  
INCLUDED IN WEST WARD



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Calne Without (West Ward) is a joint council with Calne Without (Pewsham Ward), Calne Without (East Wa  
Without (Sandy Lane Ward) and Calne Without (Middle Ward).

PLAN 2  
CHURCH RD & EAST SIDE OF  
DEVIZES ROAD.

PROPOSED AREA TO BE INCLUDED IN WEST WARD

### Electoral Area Boundary



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## Community Governance Review Request Form

**Name of Town/City/Parish:**

**Governance change requested:**

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

**Details of requested change(s):**

Remove North and South Wards

We are not actively seeking change of boundaries, however, should we be approached we would be willing to consider. We have been approached by a neighbouring Parish Council and we would like to be in a position to consider it.

**Reason for requested change(s):**

We feel that wards are no longer necessary.

We have an open mind and will always consider change when suggested.

**Date of council resolution(s): 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

**Detail of council resolution(s):**

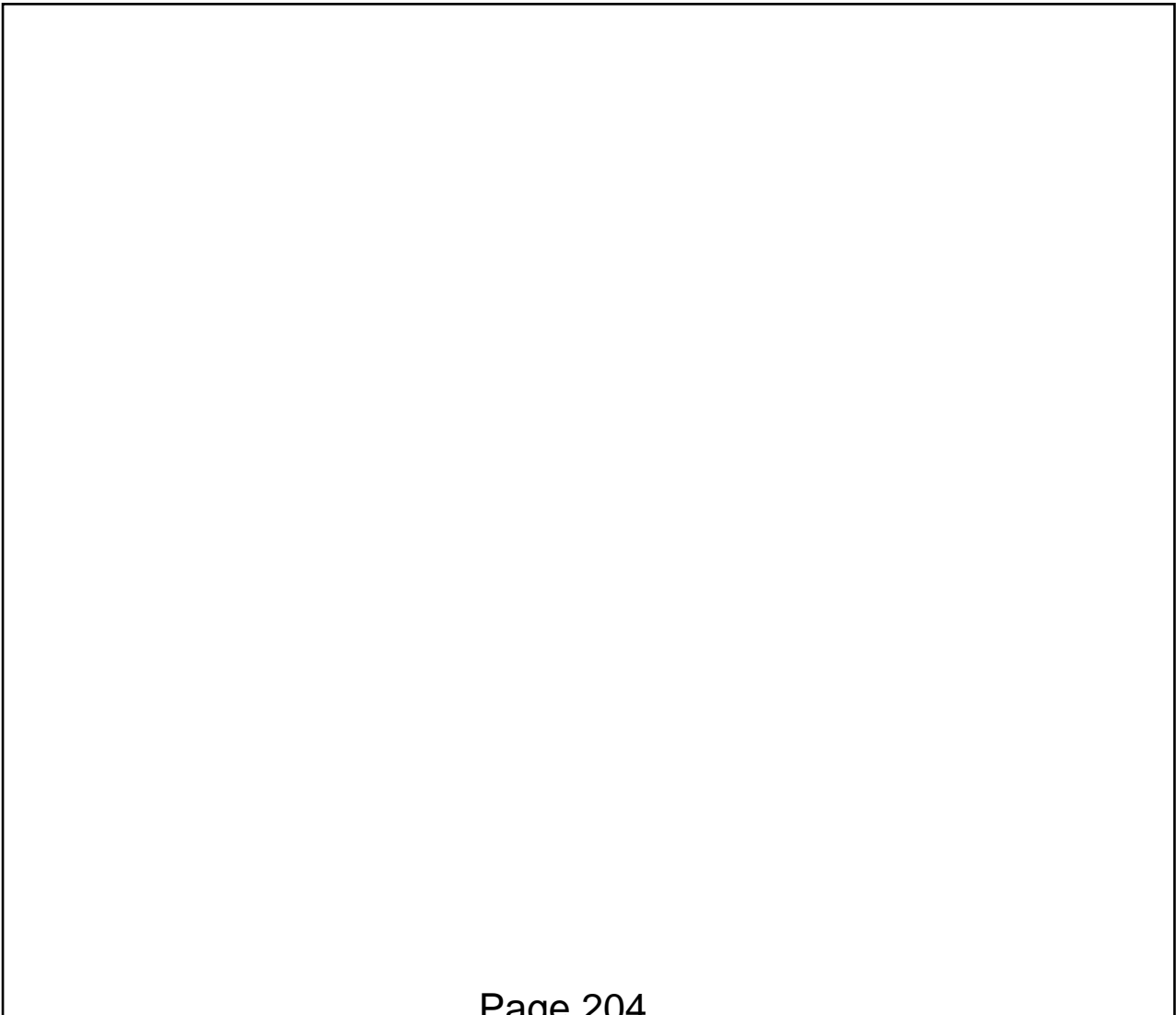
**To remove North and South Wards.**

**Reserve the right to consider boundary changes.**

**Proposer signature:**

**Proposer position:**

**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**



## Community Governance Review Request Form

**Name of Town/City/Parish: Wilcot and Huish Joint Parish Council**

**Governance change requested:**

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/~~shape~~ of wards for**
- Change external boundaries of parish**
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish**
- Other change**

**Details of requested change(s):**

1. To abolish the existing division of the parish into two wards, namely 'Wilcot&Huish' and 'Oare'
2. To rename the combined parish as 'Wilcot, Huish and Oare Parish Council'
3. To re-establish the pattern of alternating between Wilcot and Oare village halls as parish polling stations
4. To review the external boundary of the parish where it meets that of Pewsey Parish at Sunnyhill

**Reason for requested change(s):**

1. To remove historic boundaries which are irrelevant to local administration and are not conducive to unity of feeling and purpose within the combined parish. Although the wards were created to ensure equal representation on the joint Parish Council, in practice this does not happen due to insufficient interest from some villages within the parish.
2. To convey the equal standing of the three main villages in the parish.
3. To help in preventing one village becoming dominant, whether in thought or practice, within the combined parish.
4. To consider whether the parish boundary which currently divides the Sunnyhill caravan park in two is in the most appropriate place and whether the residents of Sunnyhill would be better served by all belonging to the same parish.

**Date of council resolution(s):** Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**Detail of council resolution(s):** The following is an extract from the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>h</sup> September:

66.5 Community Governance Review and Review of Electoral Arrangements

*Pewsey Parish Council will be receiving a report from its sub-committee on this matter at its full council meeting tonight. Depending on the outcome of that meeting, it was agreed that Wilcot&Huish Parish Council should submit an expression of interest to Wiltshire Council to review the parish boundaries where they currently divide Sunnyhill Lane. It was agreed that this should be subject to a full and fair consultation with the residents of Sunnyhill Lane and in a spirit of full cooperation with Pewsey Parish Council.*

*After discussion about existing internal parochial arrangements, Cllr DW proposed that the current division of the parish into two wards be removed; seconded by Cllr NF and all in favour.*

*Cllr RF proposed that the parish be re-named Wilcot, Huish and Oare Parish Council; seconded by Cllr PS and all in favour.*

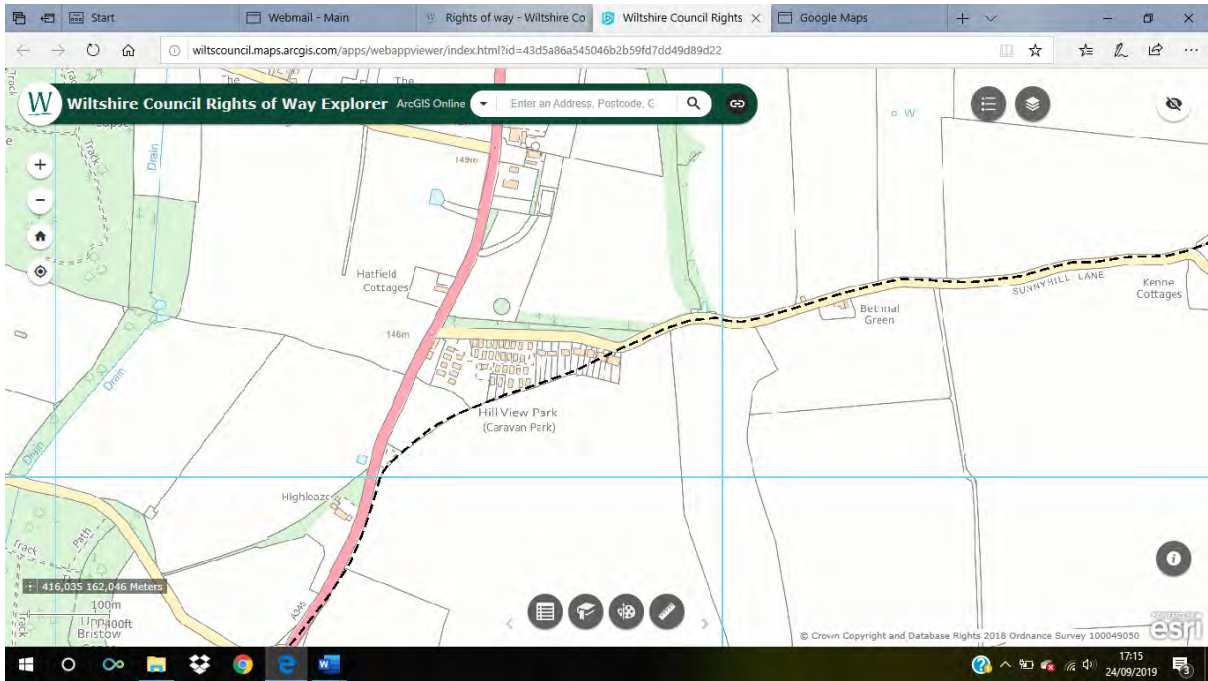
*It was agreed to request that the village halls are used in turn as polling stations.*

**Proposer signature:** Ruth Kinderman

**Proposer position:** Clerk to Wilcot & Huish Joint Parish Council

**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**

See below for map showing existing Wilcot PC/Pewsey PC boundary.



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# SOUTHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Mr Kieran Elliot  
Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

*By email*

Dear Mr Elliot

## **Community Governance Review – Southwick**

I write further to the information supplied in relation to the Community Governance Review and the proposals from Trowbridge Town Council (TTC), which were discussed at a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Whilst we understand the formal consultation process is yet to be run I am directed to submit the Parish Council's initial comments.

At the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 the Chair and members objected to the proposals put forward by TTC. They also resolved to submit a community governance review to request a redrawing of the boundary with Trowbridge to include Church Lane, The Nestings and Old Brick Fields. This latter resolution supports the recommendation of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, of which I understand you have already been informed.

In respect of the PC's objection to the proposals submitted by TTC we wish to record the following supporting statements:

1. Approval of the proposals would require that Southwick's designated Neighbourhood Development Plan Area would need to be re-drawn.
2. This being the case, all existing NDP maps and documentation would need to be amended/re-drafted.
3. This would result in additional consultancy costs being incurred, which would place an unreasonable burden on the resources of the Parish Council.
4. The above would result in the delivery of the NDP for Southwick being further delayed. Such a delay would likely result in competing large-scale developers submitting applications for developments in the centre of the village once again, completely undermining Southwick's NDP.
5. Should the Steering Group identify the need for more than 8 affordable homes then these can be allocated from those being planned at Southwick Court. Should the change in boundary proceed, then Southwick would lose this facility.
6. The Parish Council would, as a result of this proposal, lose all claims to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies associated with the development. Southwick PC would also lose future precept/taxes on the dwellings built at Southwick Court.
7. Southwick Primary will inevitably end up taking more children from Trowbridge, not Southwick. This will impact school revenues in the longer term.

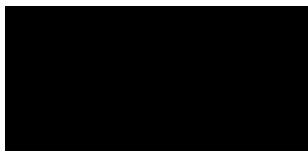
In summary, Southwick Parish Council opposes the TTC CGR request due to the impact it will have on the NDP Designated area, impact on the structure of the current draft NDP, the amount of rework required and the likelihood of further delays /costs.

In respect of the Community Governance Review request from Southwick PC I attach a map which shows the proposed boundary change.

I would be most grateful if you could record the PC's objection and its supporting reasoning, together with the proposal for a change to the parishes boundary with Trowbridge.

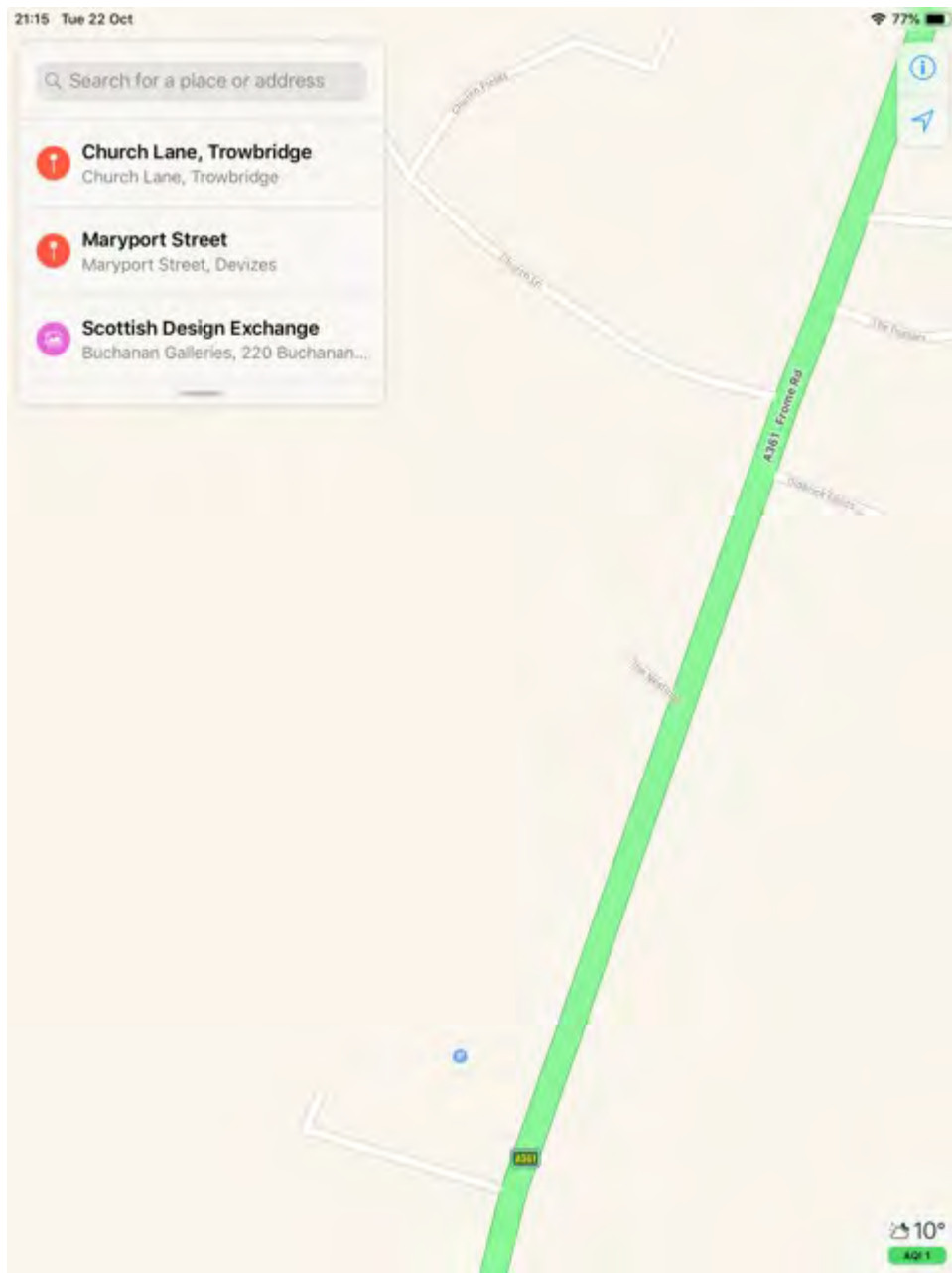
If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me and I look forward to receiving the details of the formal consultation in due course.

Yours sincerely

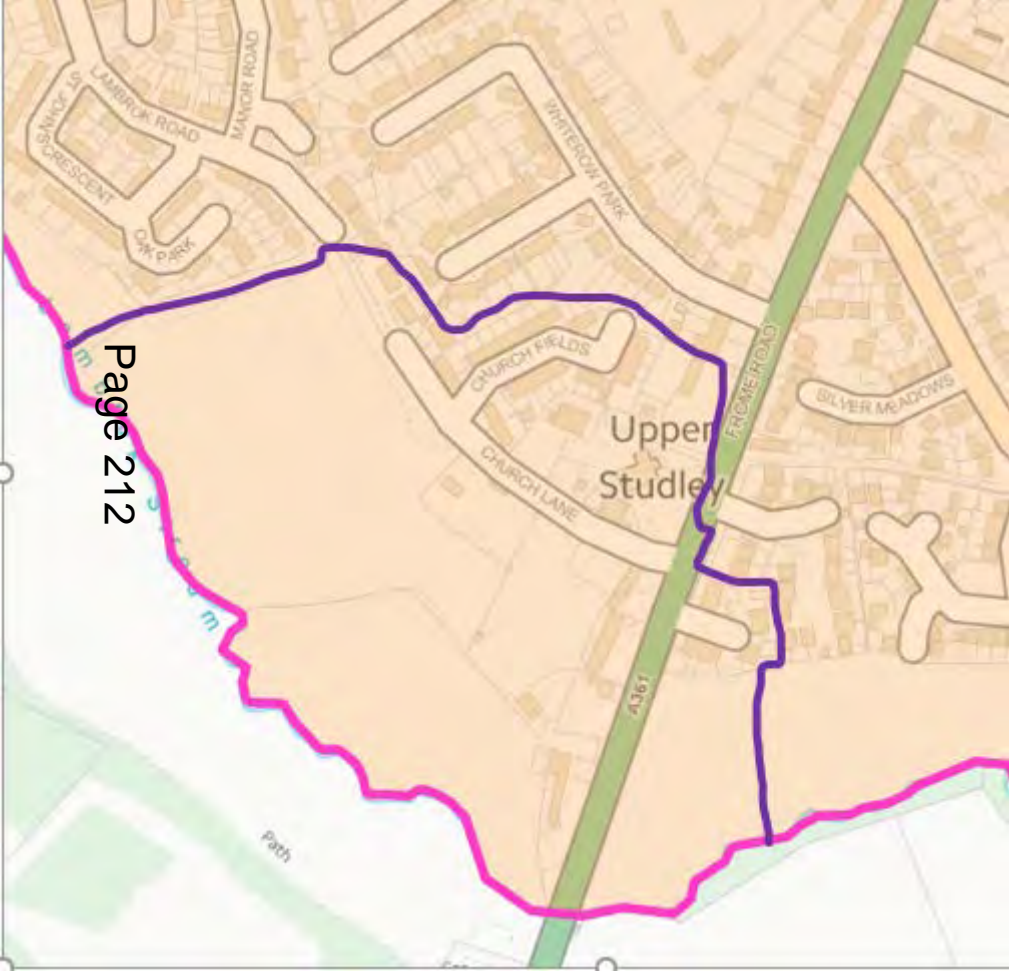


Nicola Duke B.A (Hons), FSLCC  
Parish Clerk  
For and on behalf of  
Southwick Parish Council

Please see below map, showing proposed boundary change to include Church Lane, The Nestings and Old Brick Fields.



Page 212



## Elliott, Kieran

---

**From:** John Eaton <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 03 November 2019 17:29  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Southwick Court/CGR

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Hello Kieran,

I have been made aware of a potential roman road and roman settlement at Southwick Court.

Please see photographic copies of aerial photograph, maps and drawings attached.

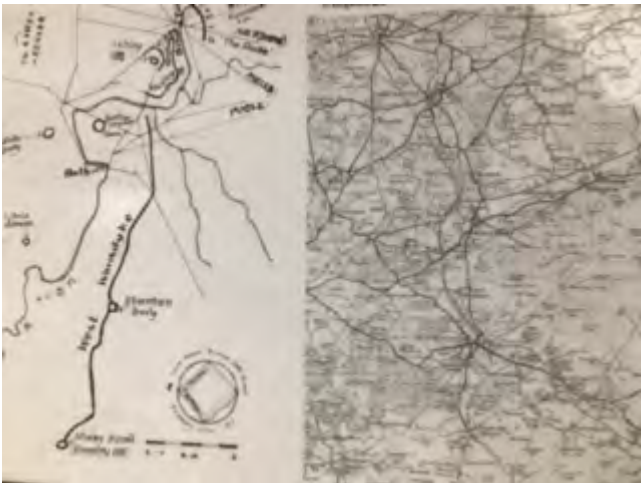
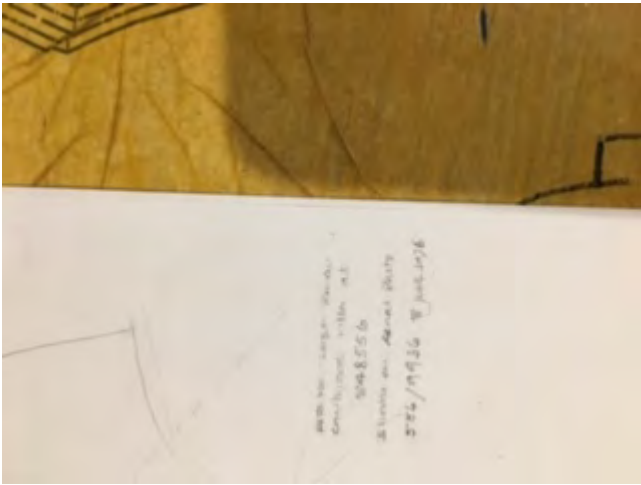
The presence of a former roman road and settlement on this site may have a bearing on the CGR request made by Trowbridge Town Council.

It may also have a bearing on the proposed development of 180 new homes near to where the roman settlement is located.

Grateful if you could share the attached materials with relevant interested parties within WC.

Many thanks in anticipation.  
John Eaton





Sent from my iPhone

## Elliott, Kieran

---

**From:** John Eaton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 December 2019 18:25  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Cc:** Nicola Duke  
**Subject:** Re: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Hello Kieran,

It was good to finally meet with with you in person last Wednesday.

I would just like to reiterate Southwick's position regarding the CGR.

Southwick objects to and continues to oppose the CGR request submitted by Trowbridge Town Council, on the following grounds:

- **Core Policy.** The proposed boundary changes are against Wiltshire Core Policy (CP1 & 2) and will erode the integrity and identity of Southwick as a rural villages.
- **Coalescence.** This boundary change proposal is against Wiltshire Core Policy and Southwick's NDP Green Space policy. The residents of Southwick overwhelmingly wish to remain an urban village and remain completely separate from Trowbridge Town. This can be seen from the results of public consultations in relation to Southwick's Neighbourhood Development Plan. If this boundary change takes place, Southwick would effectively become a suburb of Trowbridge. This is something that the residents of Southwick patently do not want.
- **Premature Proposal.** The proposed boundary changes are premature – none of the proposed development work at Southwick Court has started or is likely to begin within the timeline of these proposed boundary changes.
- **Misleading Narrative.** Trowbridge Town Council's proposal for boundary changes is inaccurate and misleading. As part of their CGR Request, Trowbridge state "All sites proposed are extensions to the town". This is not true, certainly in Southwick's case, as Southwick is rural in nature and 3 miles from central Trowbridge.
- **Financially Motivated.** Trowbridge Town have only targeted proposed areas of new housing development to be put forward for boundary change. This is effectively a policy of 'land-grabbing' for monetary reasons. What happens next time Trowbridge run out of money? More land grabbing from the surrounding villages?
- **Neighbourhood Planning.** The proposals will have a detrimental impact to Southwick's emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan, resulting in re-work, further delays and additional expenditure.
- **Local Plan.** The proposal for 180 new homes at Southwick Court is being imposed on Southwick Parish in order for Wiltshire Council to meet housing targets set by central government. Southwick are ready to work with Wiltshire Council but the housing to be built on this site is on Southwick soil. In this respect, housing numbers should be allocated to Southwick Parish as part of the Trowbridge Remainder, not Trowbridge Town.
- **Government Policy – Brownfield first.** There is a very large brownfield site in the centre of Trowbridge (Bowyers) that can easily accommodate c400 new homes without being impacted by the TBMS. Our strongest suggestion is that both Trowbridge and Wiltshire Council look to the Bowyers site to meet the housing figures for Trowbridge to 2026.

- **Detriment.** There are absolutely no benefits to Southwick, in any form whatsoever, as a result of this proposed boundary change. There will only be negatives for Southwick.

With regard to Southwick's CGR request this, is based on the following points:

- Residents in and around Church Lane would rather be part of a rural village than an urban town.
- The area has geographical nearness to Southwick Country Park.
- The existing urban sprawl of Trowbridge is already too near to Southwick.
- Will provide additional protection for the Lambrook Waterway, especially with regard to the impact of possible future housing development.

With regard to the potential historical restriction raised during the meeting. It was originally thought that the presence of an ancient settlement at Southwick Court would have some bearing and help support our CGR request. However, it would seem that this is not the case based on Richard Clewer's comments. Therefore we will be using the existence of an ancient settlement to help prevent any further housing development at Southwick Court and to preserve a green 'landscape gap' between Southwick and Trowbridge.

Hope this clarifies Southwick's position.

I would remain grateful if you could keep myself and Nicola Duke advanced notice of any future consultations/ pre-consultation meeting being arranged.

Again, many thanks for all your help.

Kind regards  
Cllr John Eaton  
Chair, Southwick Residents Association.

On 11 Dec 2019, at 06:23, John Eaton <[REDACTED]> wrote:

ok with me Kieran.

Kind regards  
John Eaton  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Richard <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** 10 December 2019 at 19:48:10 GMT  
**To:** CGR <[CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk)>, John Eaton <[REDACTED]>, <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** "Prickett, Horace" <[Horace.Prickett@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Horace.Prickett@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

Hi Kieran,

I understand from Horace that he discussed this with you this afternoon (10/12/2019) and that the three parishes had already agreed to amend the order...

1. TTC



2. Hilperton
3. Southwick, North Bradley and West Ashton together

Regards

Richard

---

**From:** CGR [<mailto:CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 10 December 2019 17:14  
**To:** Richard; John Eaton; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prickett, Horace  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

Dear Chairmen,

I understand from Cllr Prickett that North Bradley, West Ashton and Southwick will be coordinating for tomorrow's sessions, scheduled as below.

Therefore, it was suggested that Hilperton could take the 1530-1600 slot, and the three parishes the slot thereafter, since it was felt there would not be a need for a 1.5 hour session.

Cllr Clark at Hilperton thought that would be a good idea and was checking with his Vice-Chair who would be attending, would you be able to confirm if that is ok?

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**  
<image001.png>  
Tel: 01225 718504  
Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)  
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**From:** Richard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 December 2019 13:45  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran <[Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

Thanks Kieran,

Just a thought, are these sessions closed i.e. will Trowbridge be allowed to attend all the sessions listed?

1500-1530 – Trowbridge Town  
1530-1600 – North Bradley  
1600-1630 – Southwick  
1630-1700 – West Ashton  
1700-1730 - Hilperton

Thanks

Richard

---

**From:** Elliott, Kieran [<mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 28 November 2019 22:33  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

To confirm, the venue would be at County Hall.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**  
<image001.png>  
Tel: 01225 718504  
Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)  
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**From:** Democratic and Member Services  
**Sent:** 28 November 2019 11:30  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee  
**Importance:** High

Dear parishes,

With my apologies, I accidentally left off Hilperton from the initial email,

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**  
<image001.png>  
Tel: 01225 718504  
Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)  
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**From:** Democratic and Member Services  
**Sent:** 28 November 2019 11:24  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee  
**Importance:** High

Dear parishes,

This email is to confirm the arrangements and timings of the sessions for representatives of parishes to meet with representatives of the Electoral Review Committee as part of initial information gathering, as previously discussed for **11 December**. The timings may have been tweaked so please let me know if they are suitable and we will do the best we can.

1500-1530 – Trowbridge Town  
1530-1600 – North Bradley  
1600-1630 – Southwick  
1630-1700 – West Ashton  
1700-1730 - Hilperton

As noted below this is not the last opportunity for any comments if anyone is unable to attend.

The intention would be that each parish would have a short session in turn to provide their views on any [schemes](#) which have been proposed directly to the representatives from the Committee, to draw attention to relevant factors of community identity and effective governance, as well as any evidence or historical or future factors which the parish feels should be taken into account by the committee when it prepares its draft recommendations.

Those draft recommendations will not be prepared until approximately March 2020, following a period of public consultation, so this would not be the final chance for any comments to be received. The Committee will be provided with any comments which have already been received from parishes, but if you have any further information you would like them to see please let me know, and bring along any information you feel is relevant.

Please could you report to reception upon arrival, and you will be brought up to the appropriate room as soon as possible.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**

<image001.png>

Tel: 01225 718504

Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Web: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)

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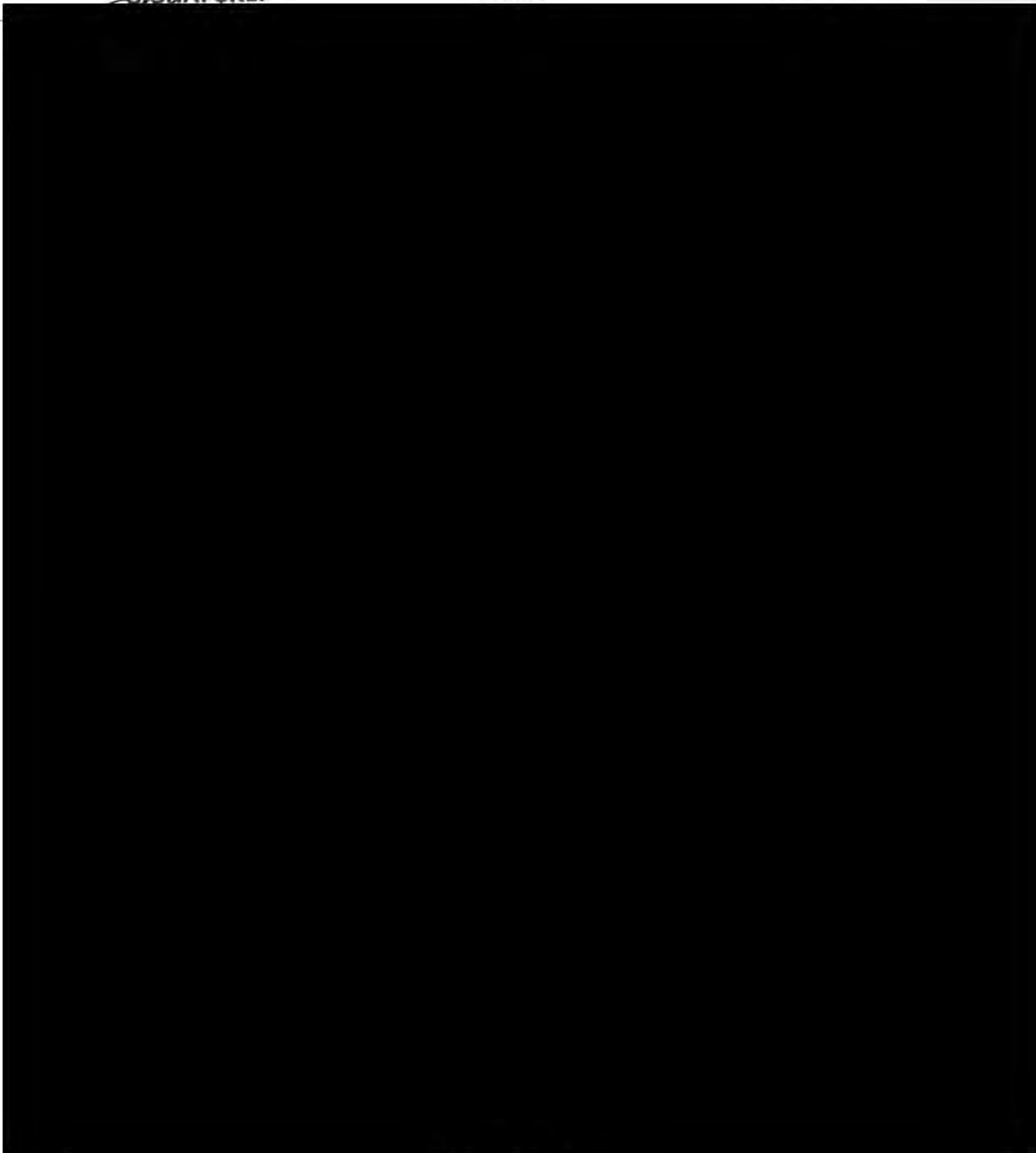
**PETITION - A NEW PARISH COUNCIL FOR DERRY HILL & STUDLEY**

We the undersigned request the creation of a new parish council to serve the residents Derry Hill and Studley reflecting the significant growth of these communities in the last 40 years. The new parish should comprise the existing West and Pewsham wards of Calne Without Parish Council which represent Derry Hill, Studley and Old Derry Hill. The new parish should elect 9 councillors in a single ward.

**SIGNATURE.**

**NAME**

**ADDRESS**



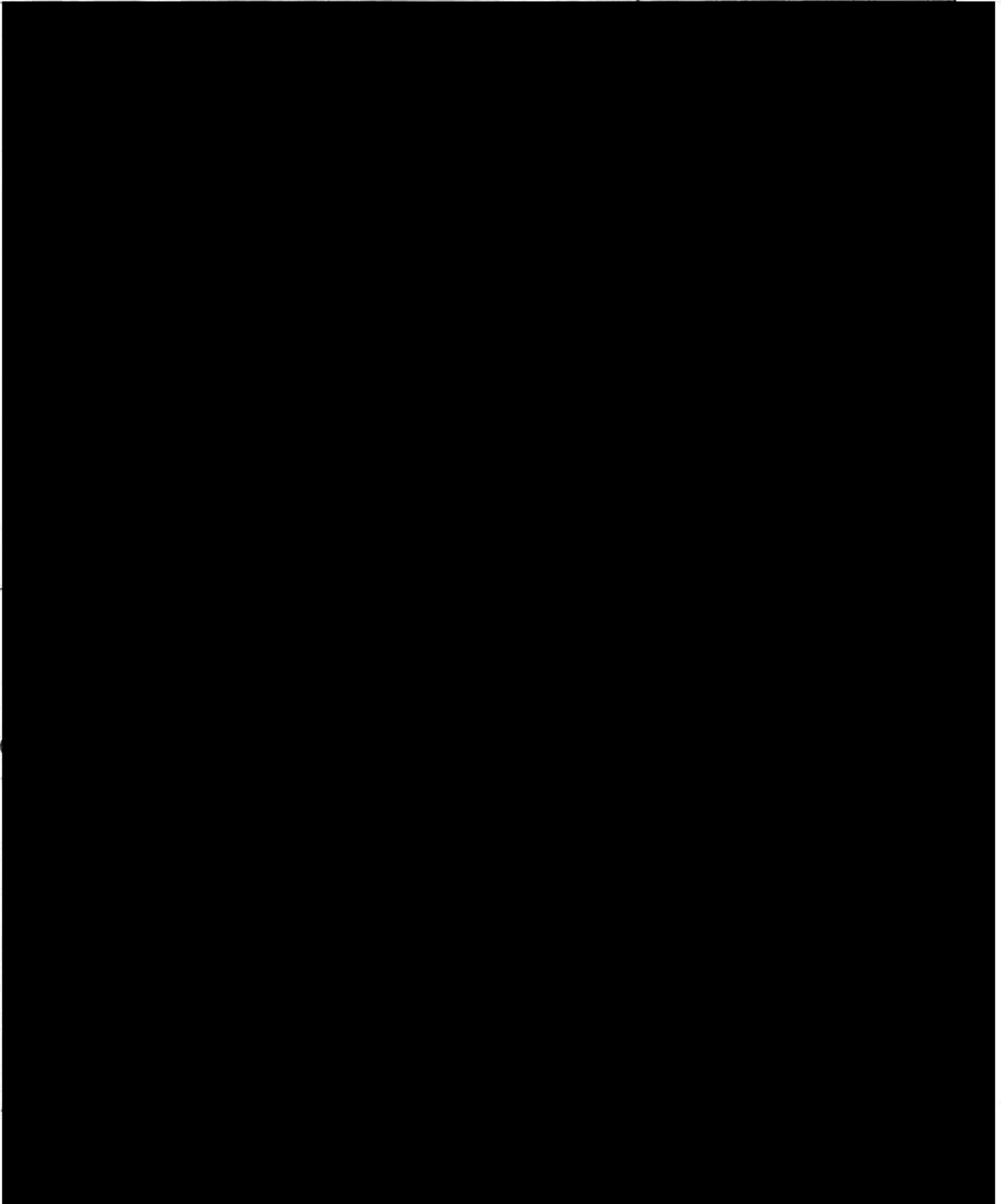
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**SIGNATURE.**

**NAME**

**ADDRESS**



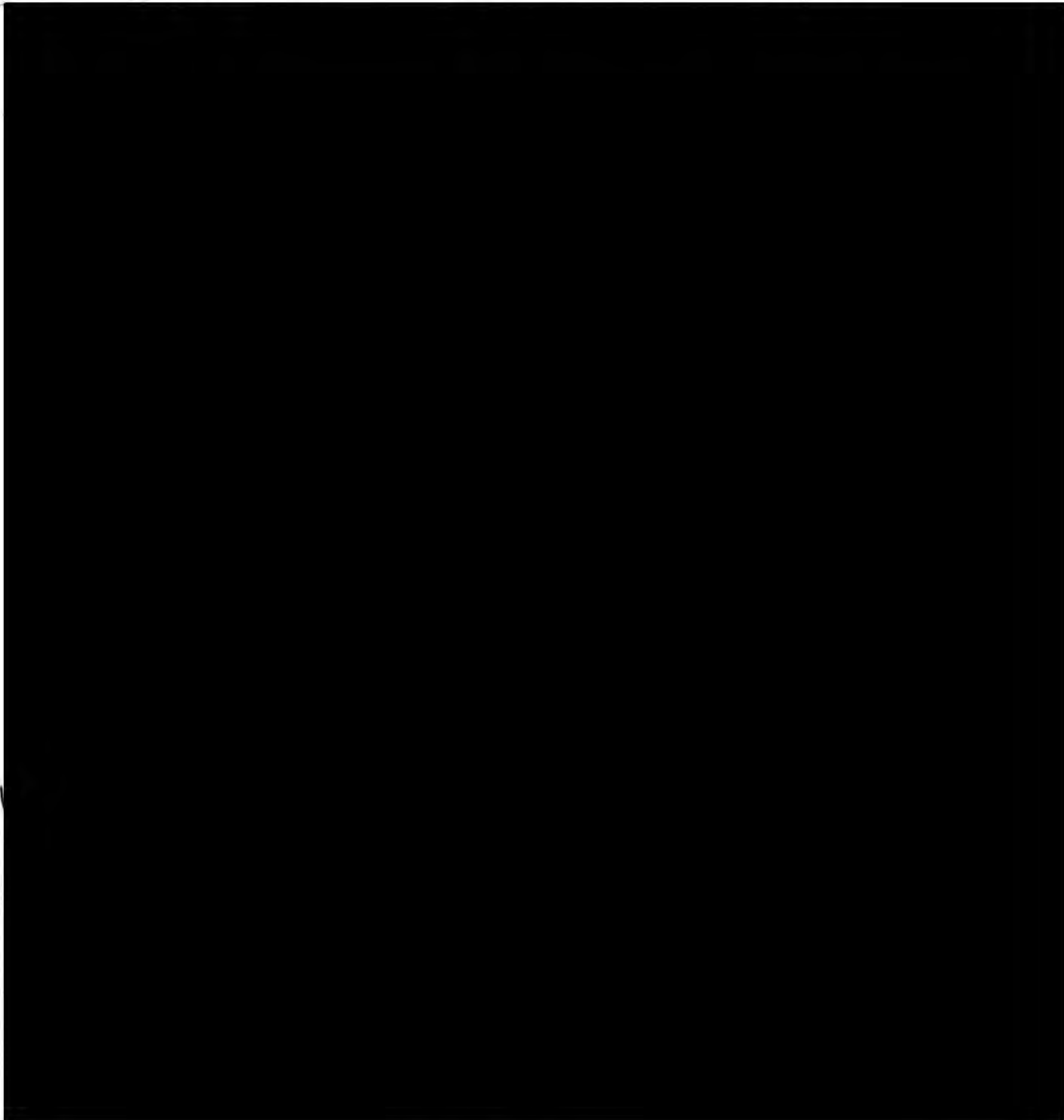
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**NAME**

**ADDRESS**



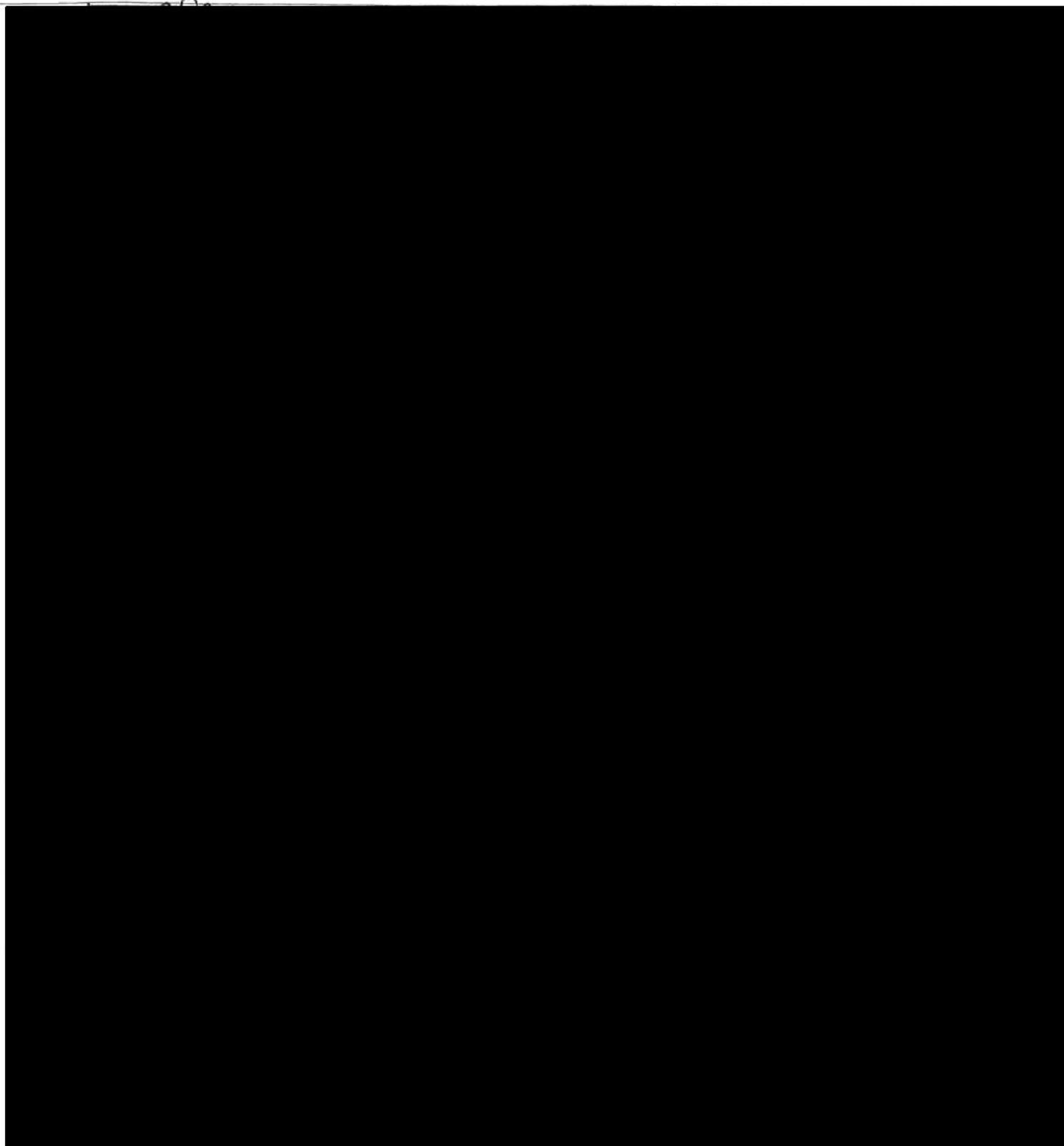
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**SIGNATURE.**

**NAME**

**ADDRESS**





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**SIGNATURE.**

**NAME**

**ADDRESS**




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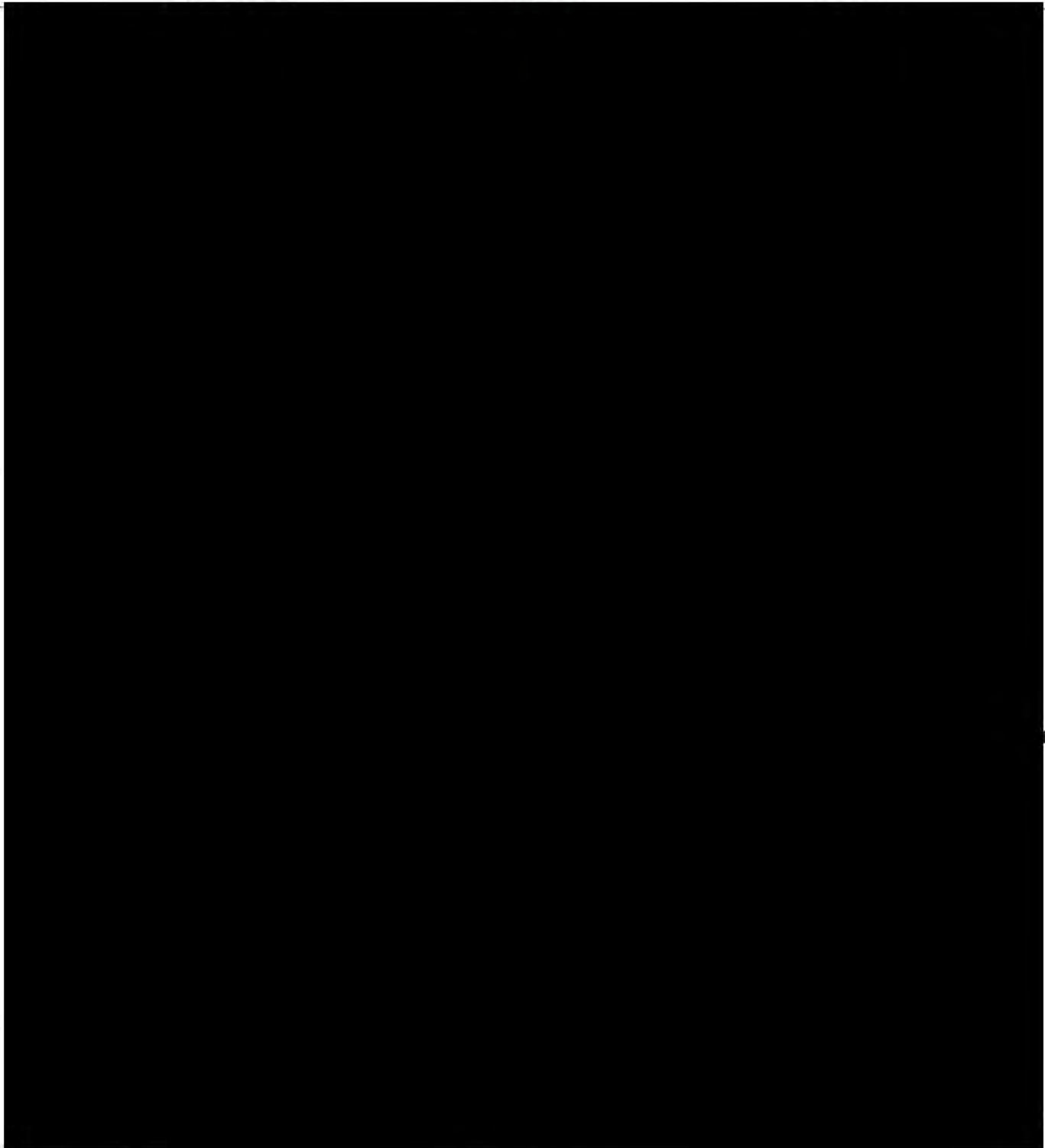
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**NAME**

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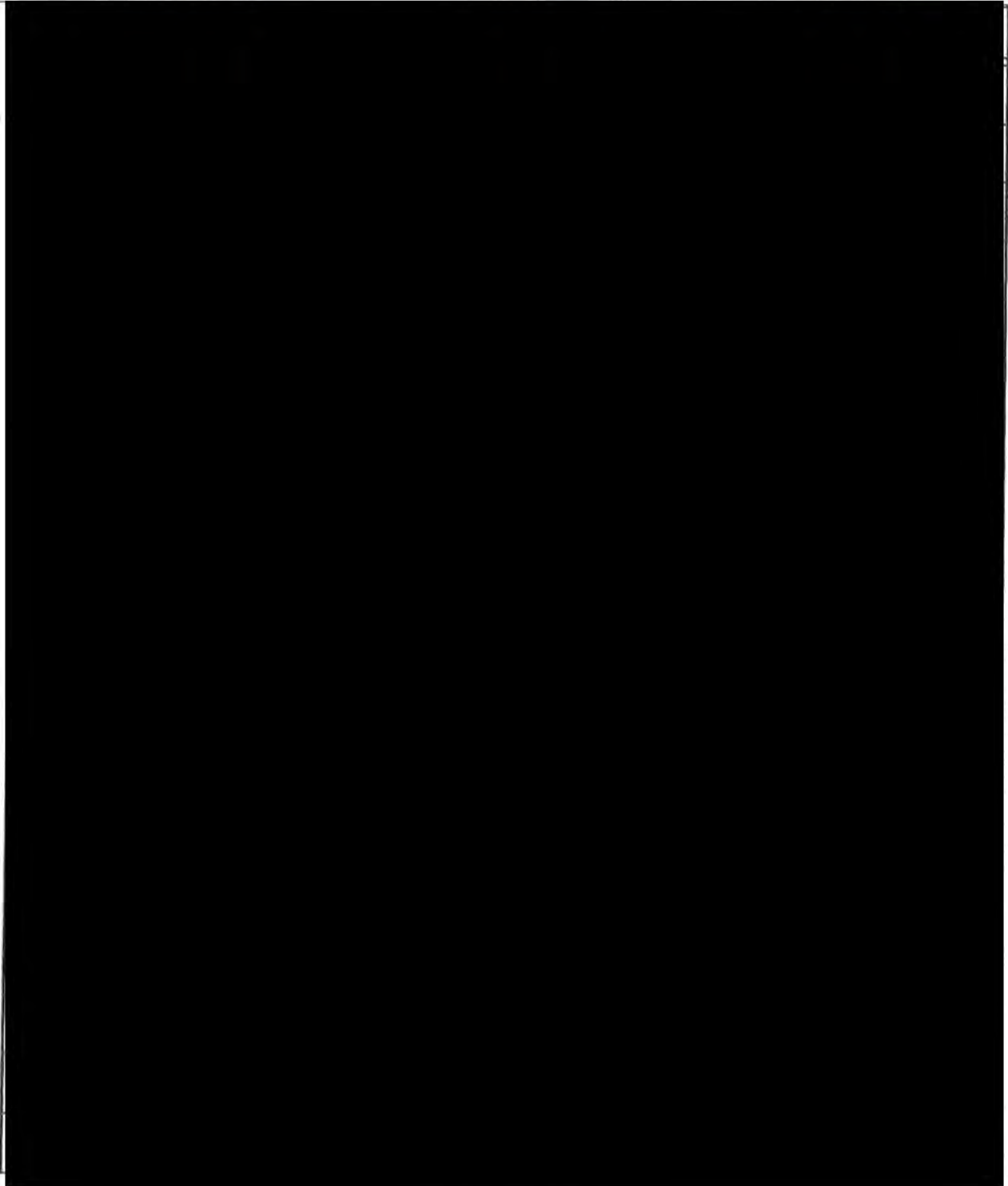
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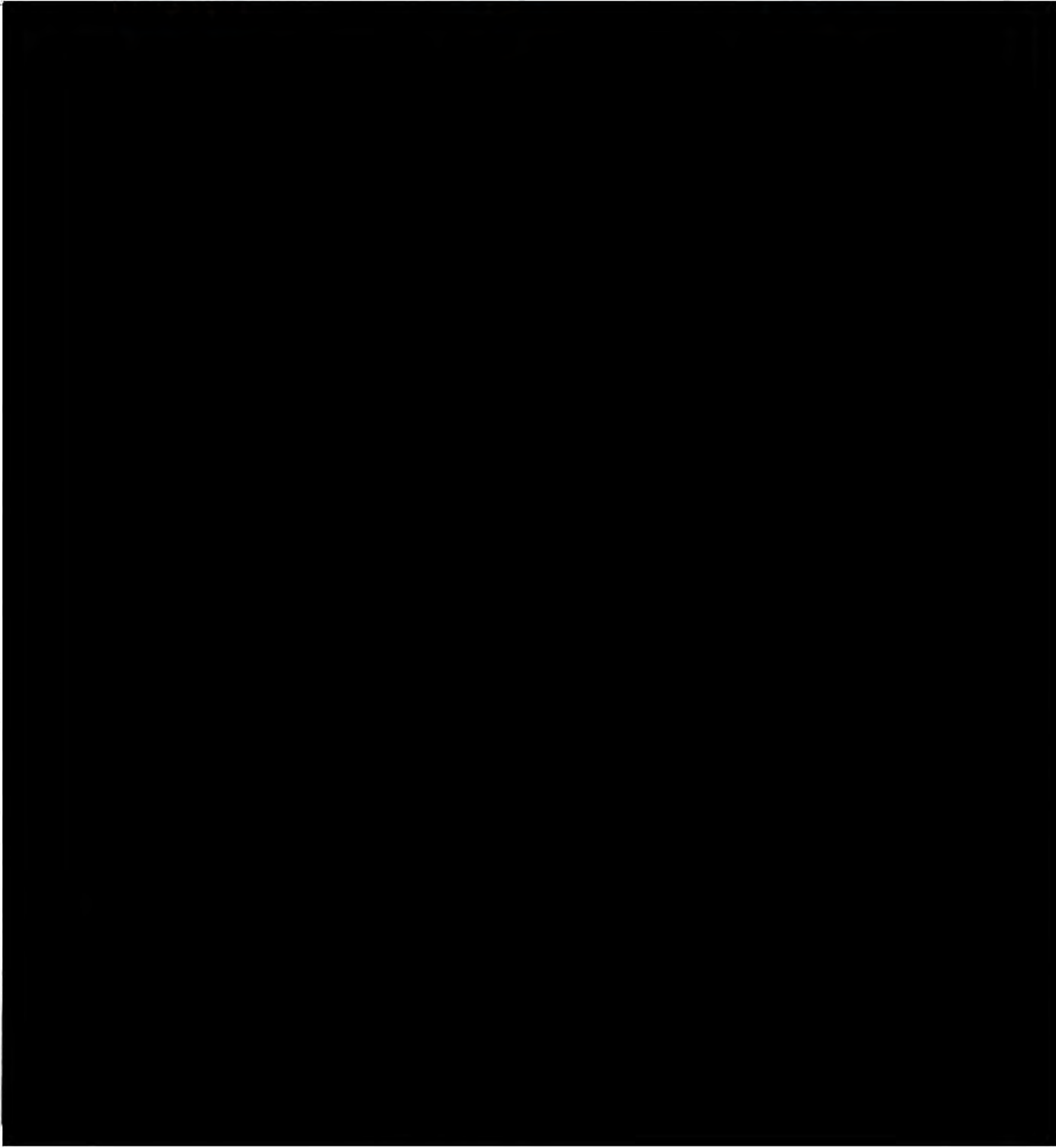
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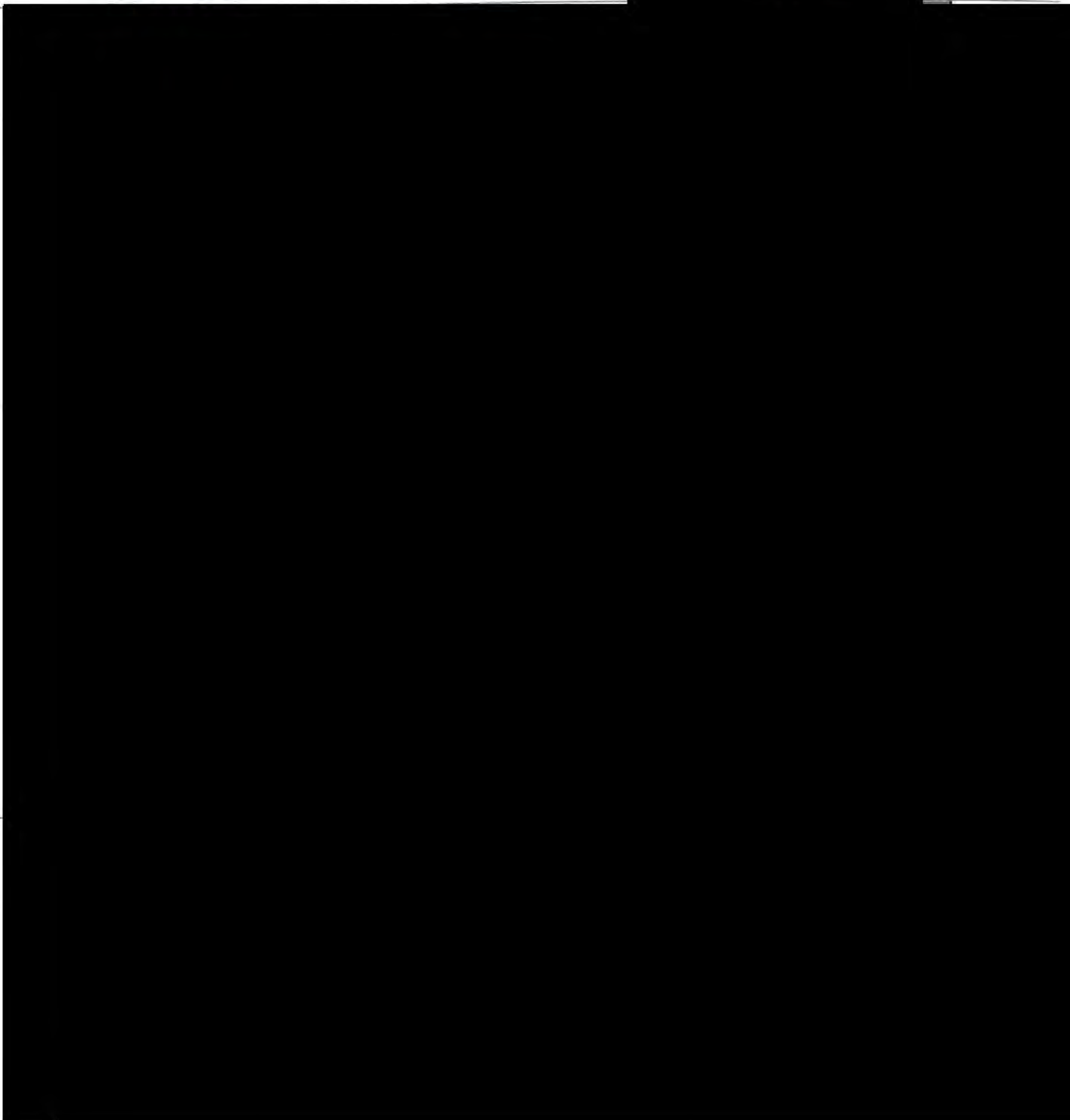
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**SIGNATURE.**

**NAME**

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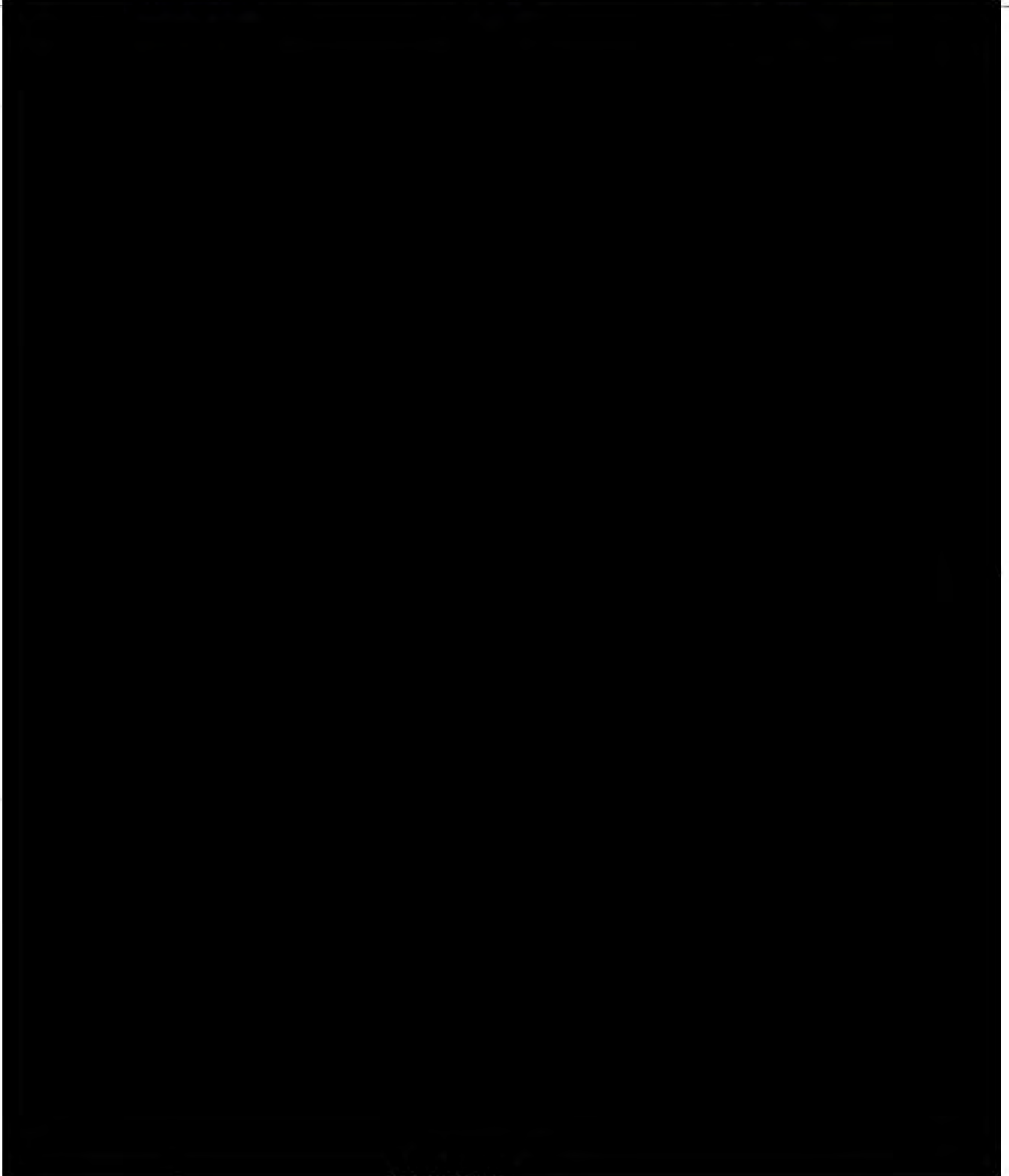
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**SIGNATURE.**

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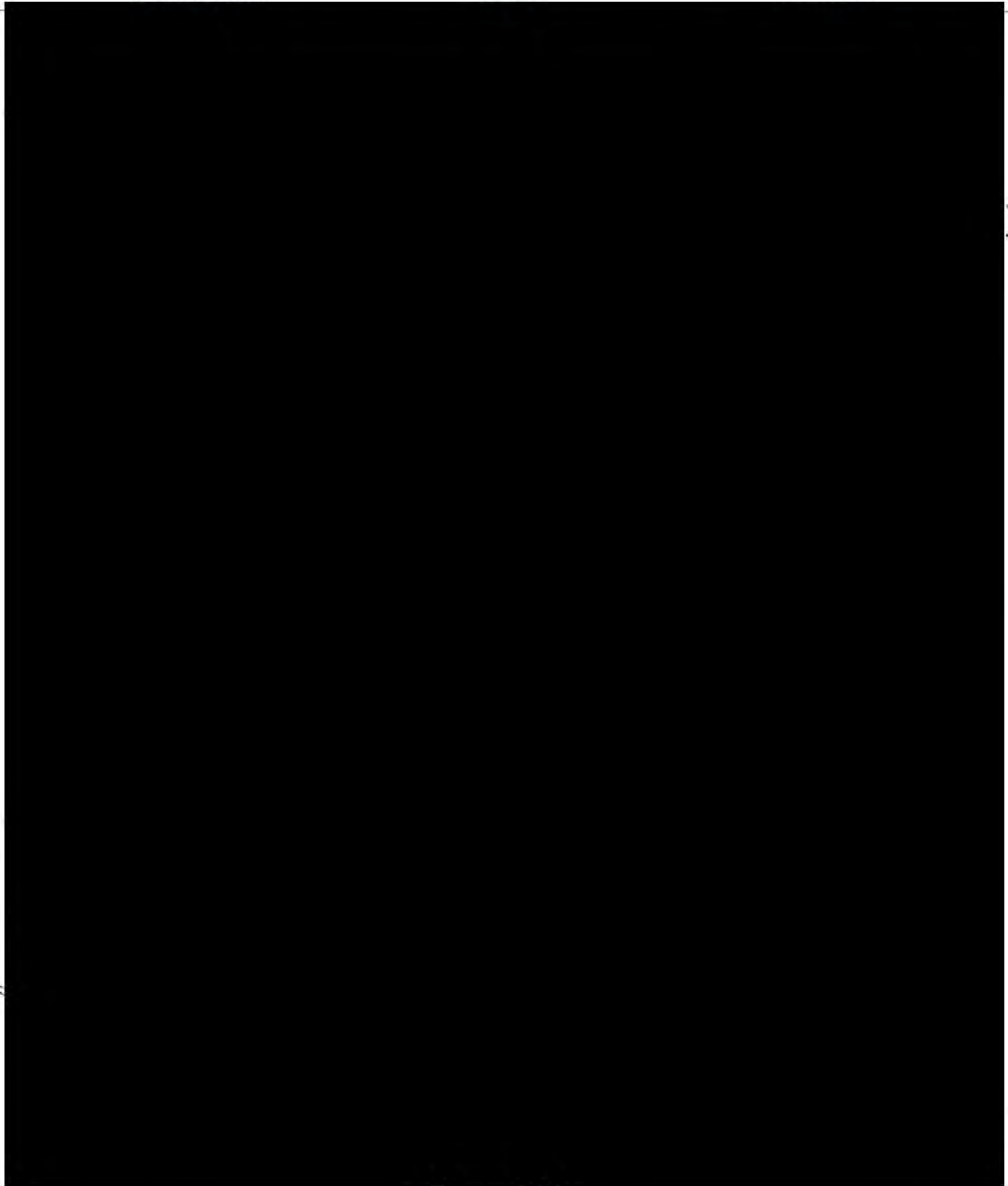
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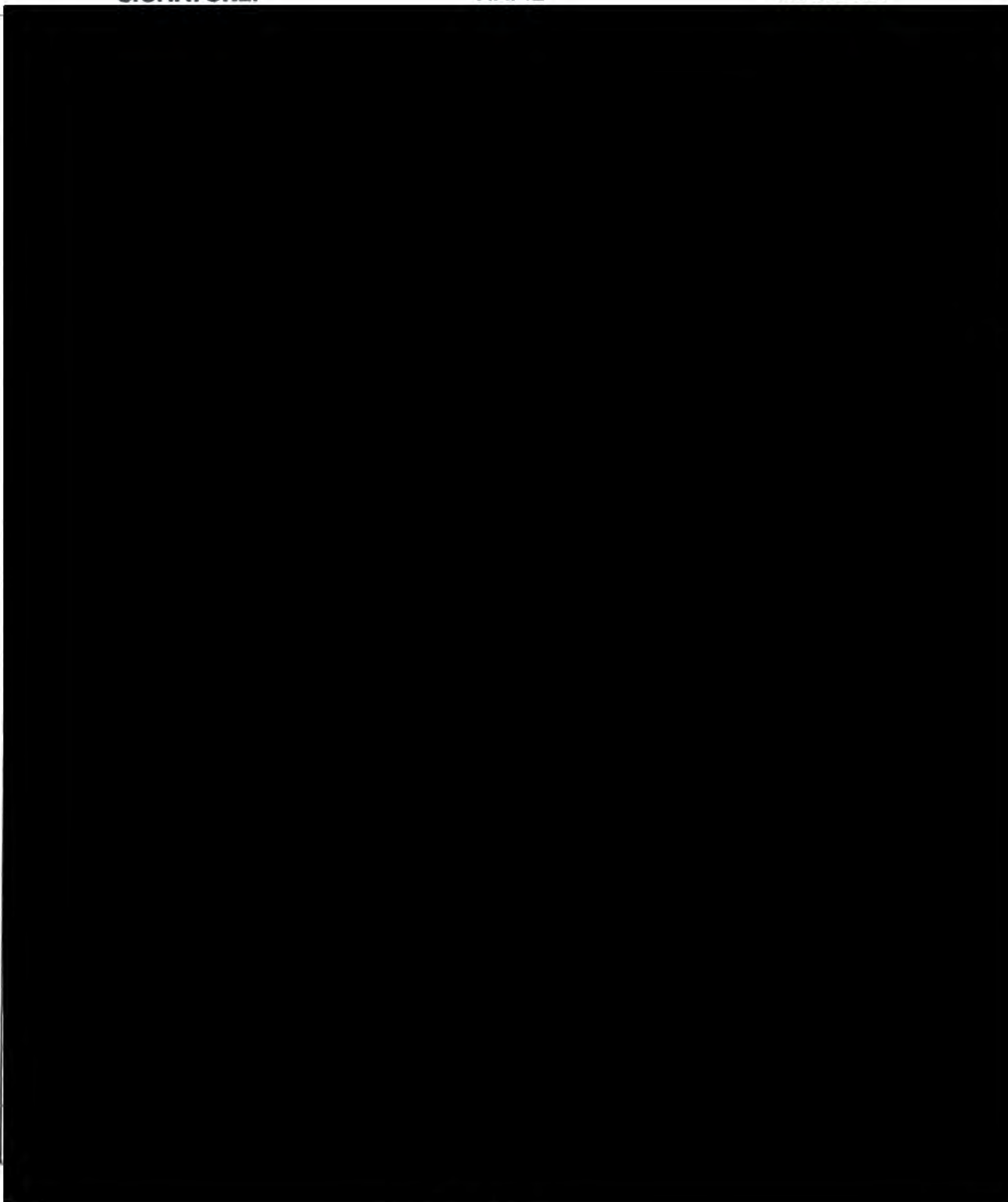
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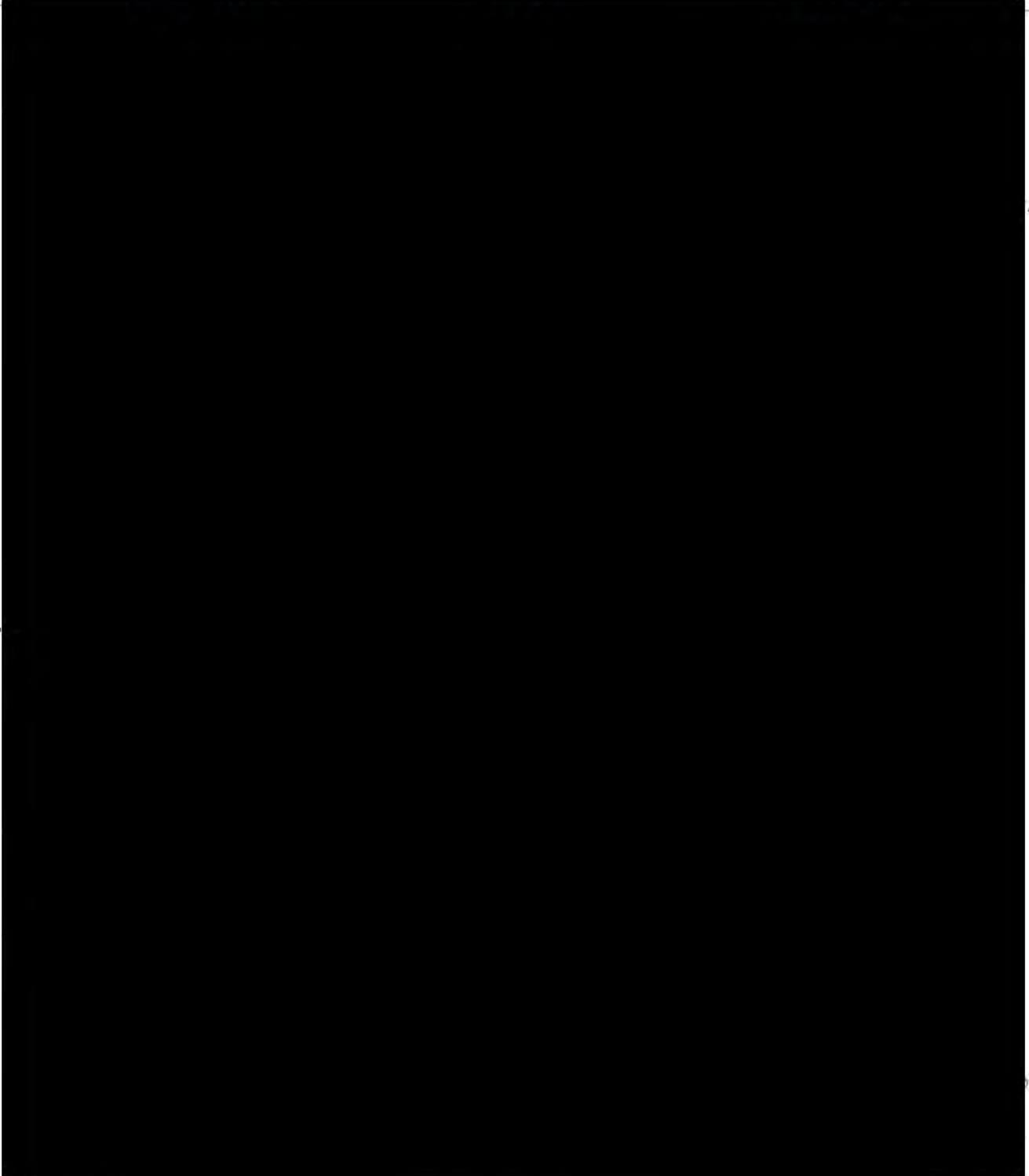
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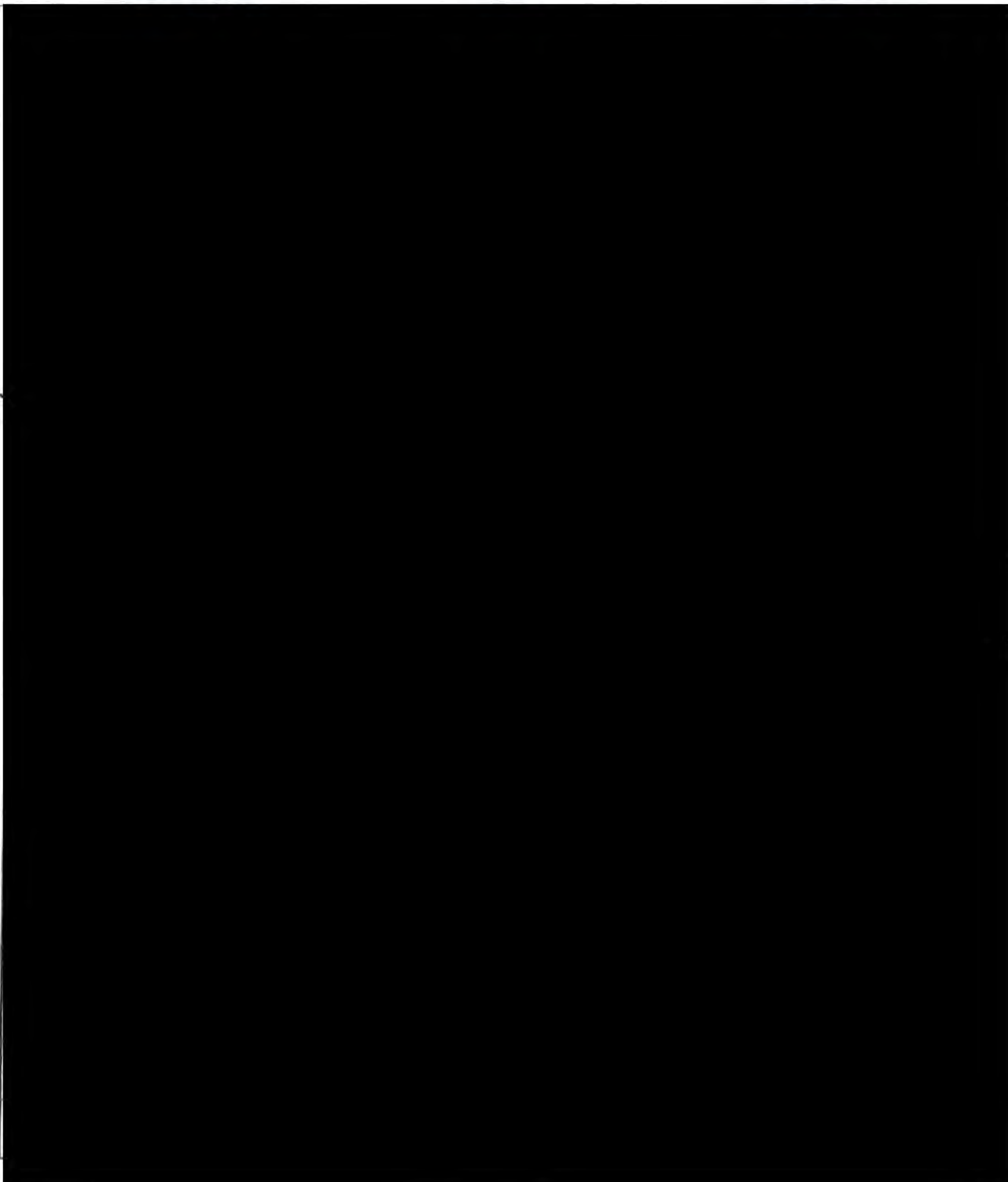
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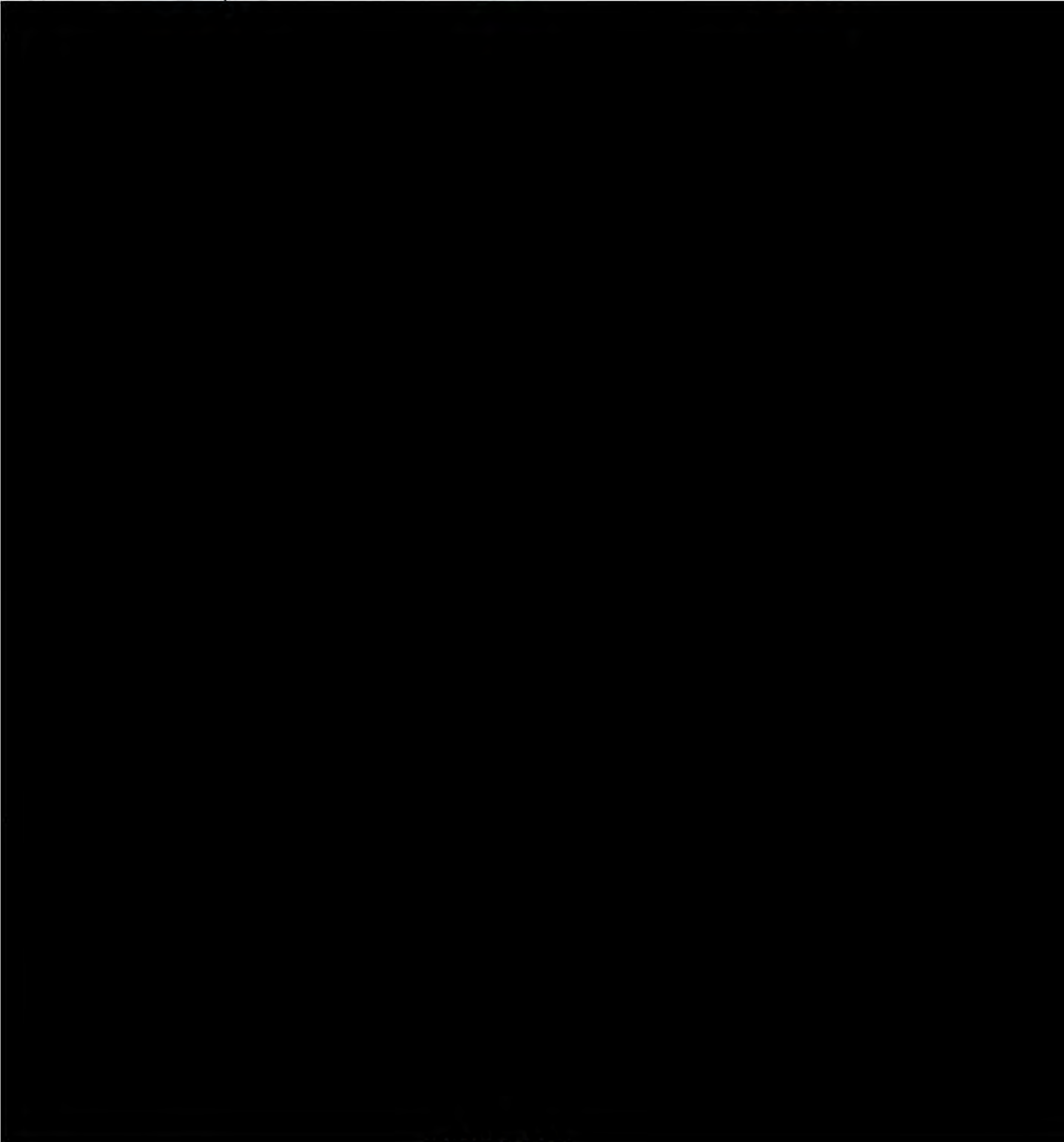
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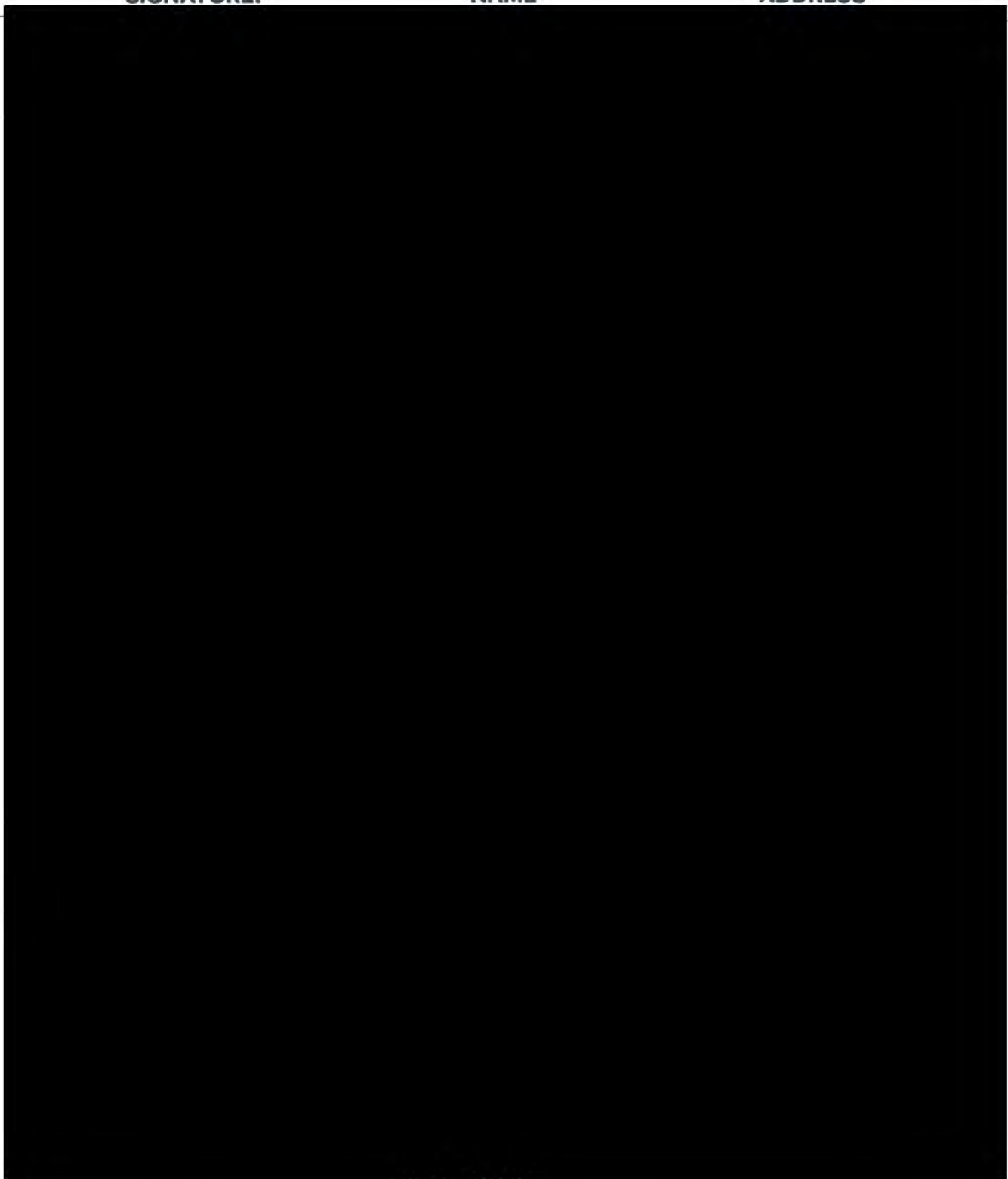
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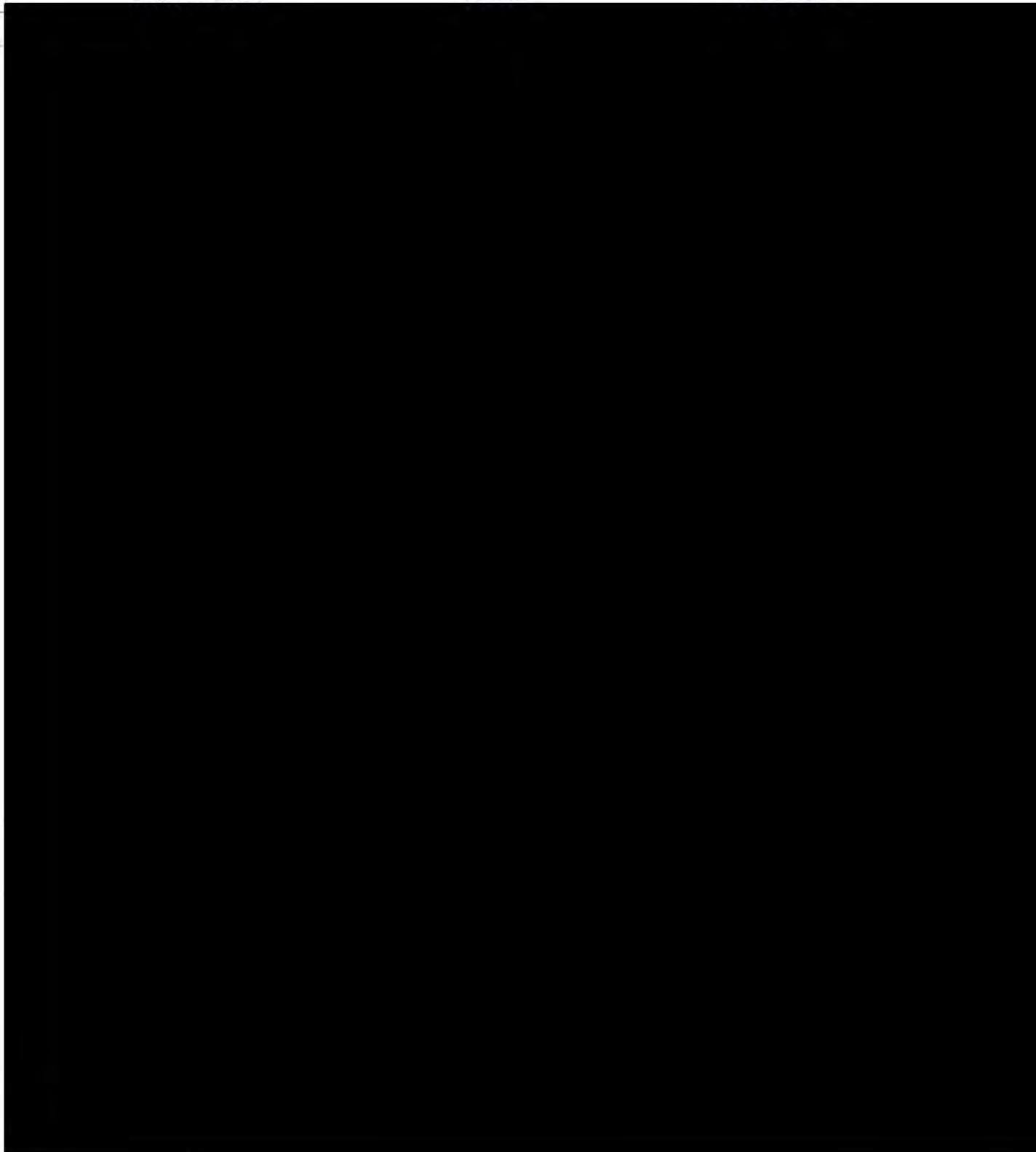
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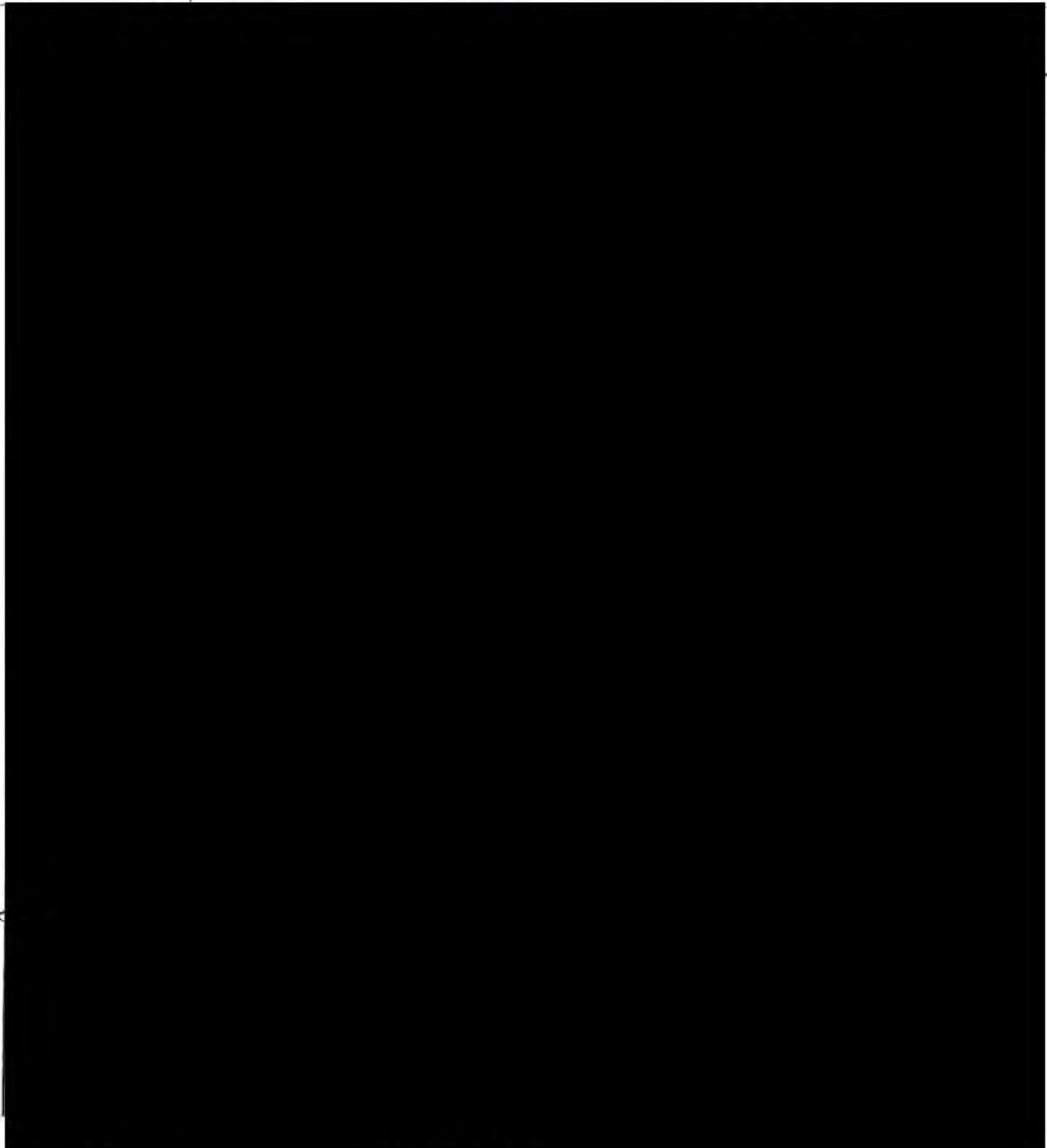
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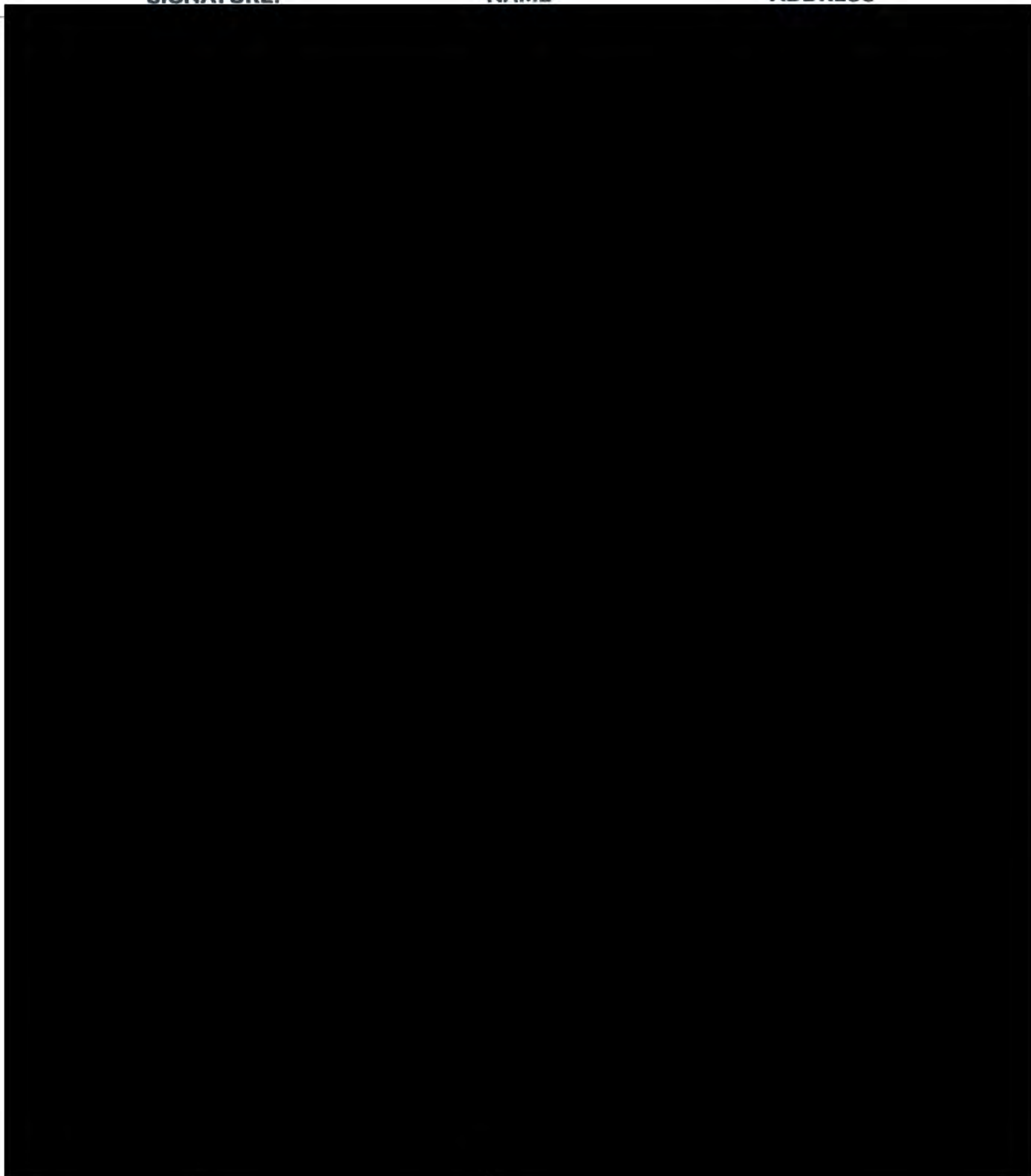
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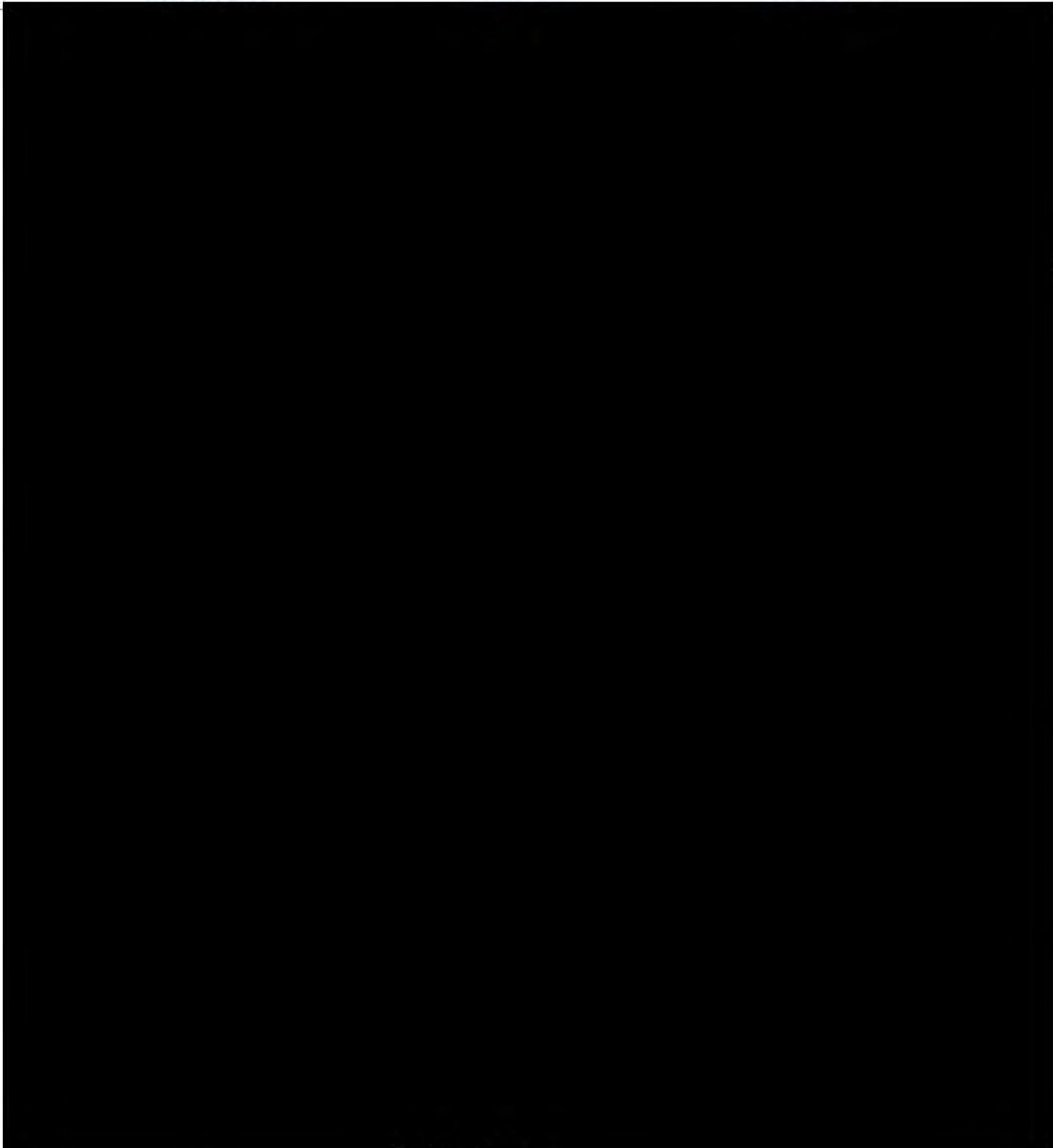
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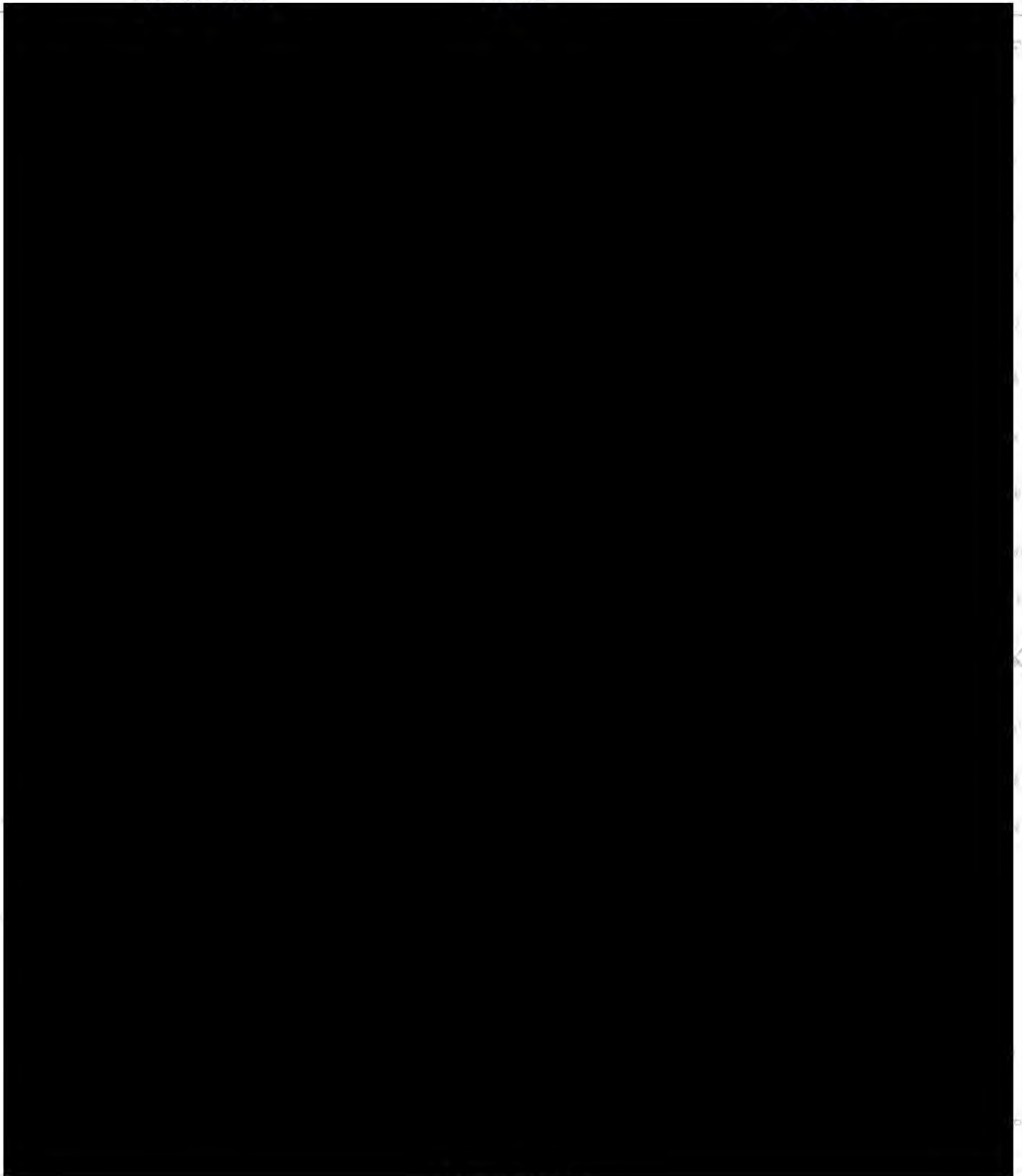
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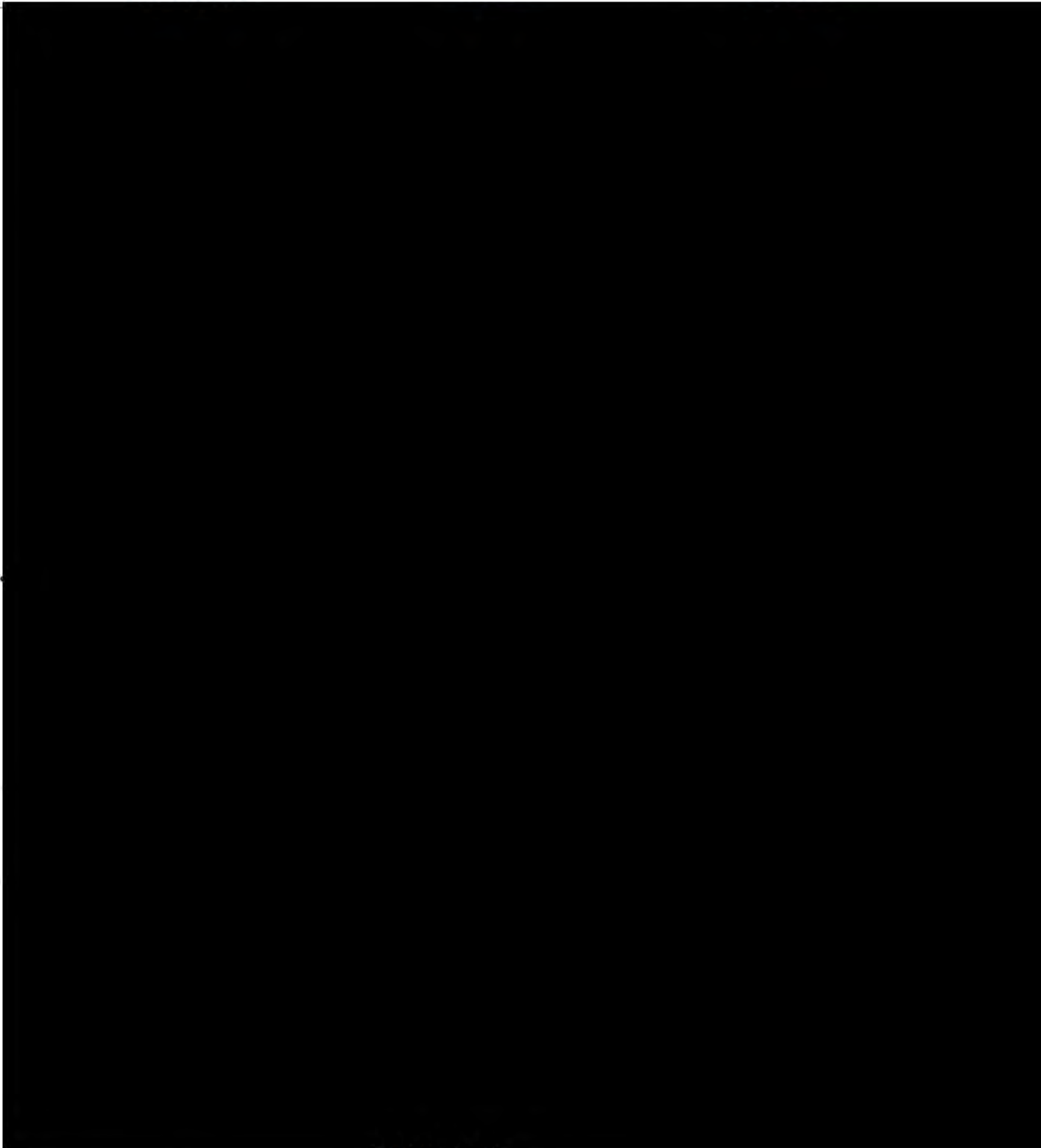
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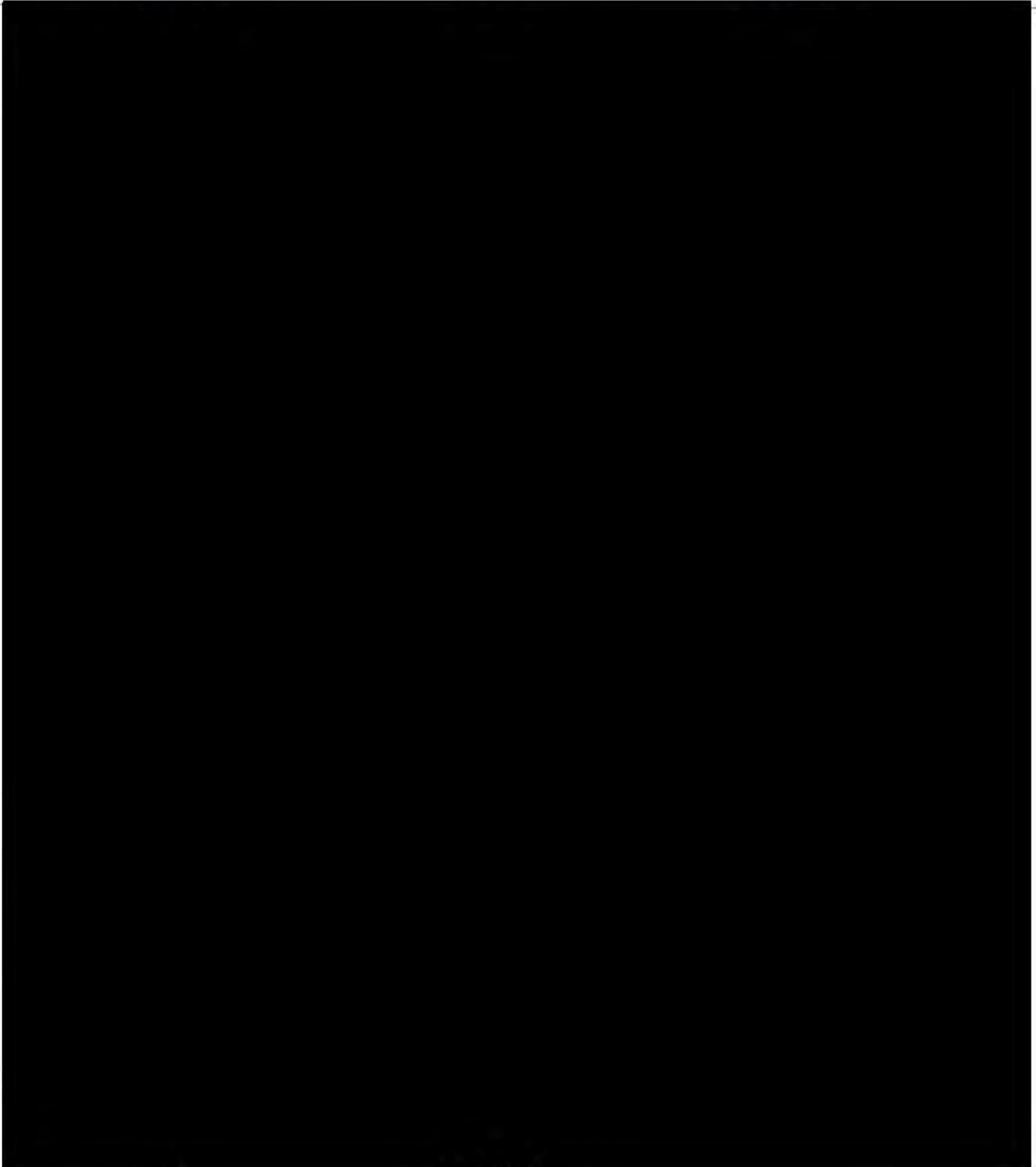
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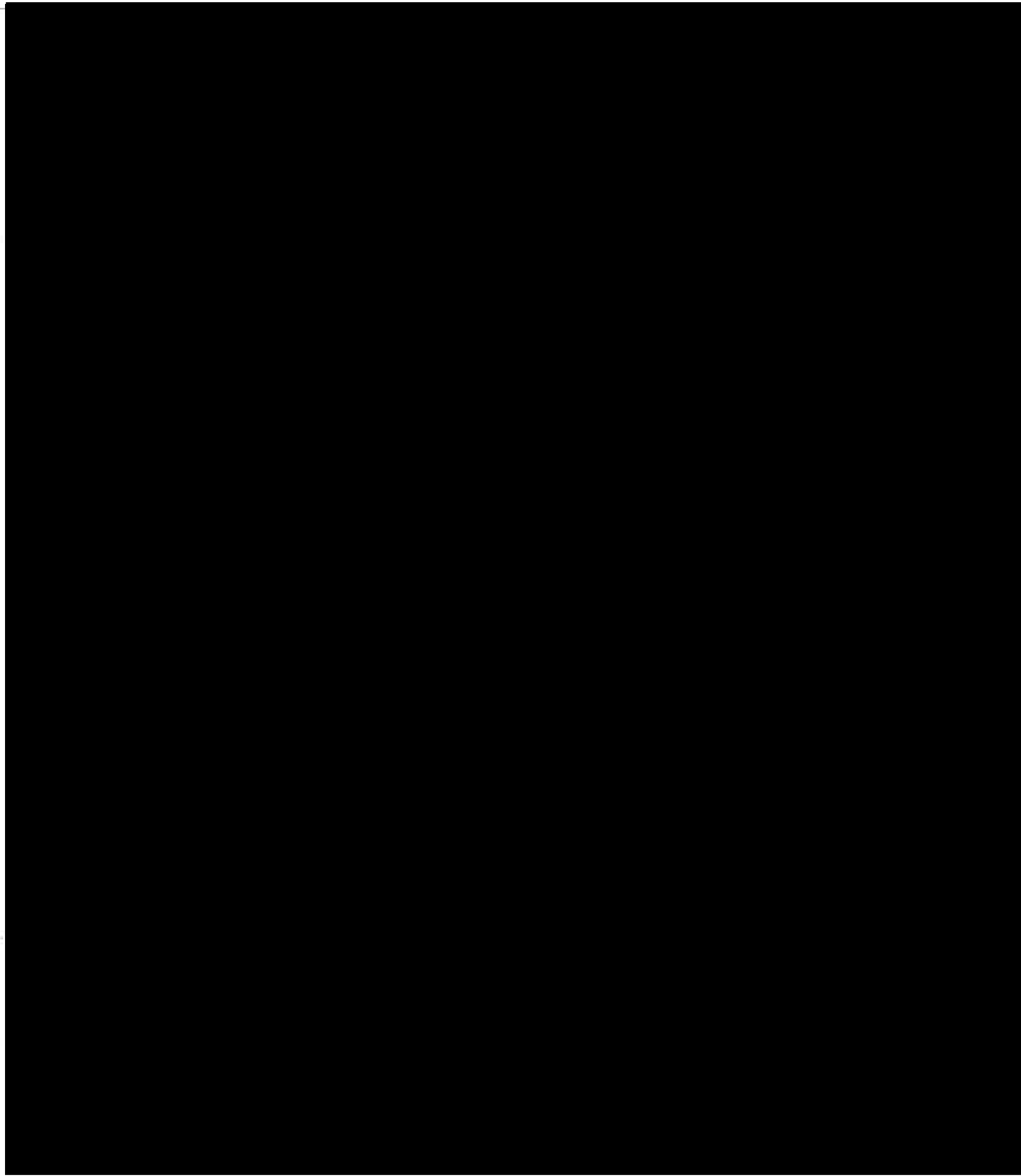
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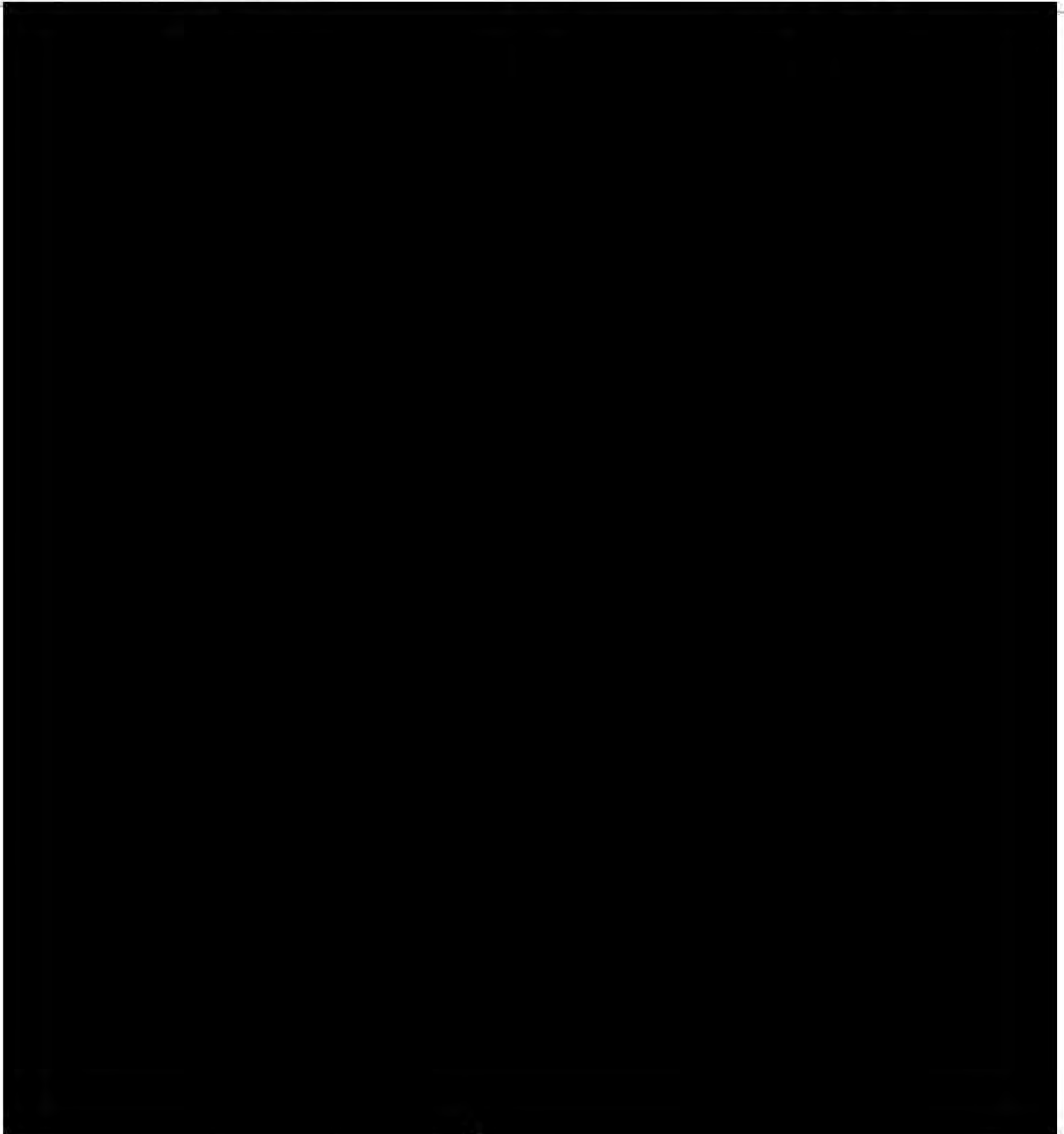
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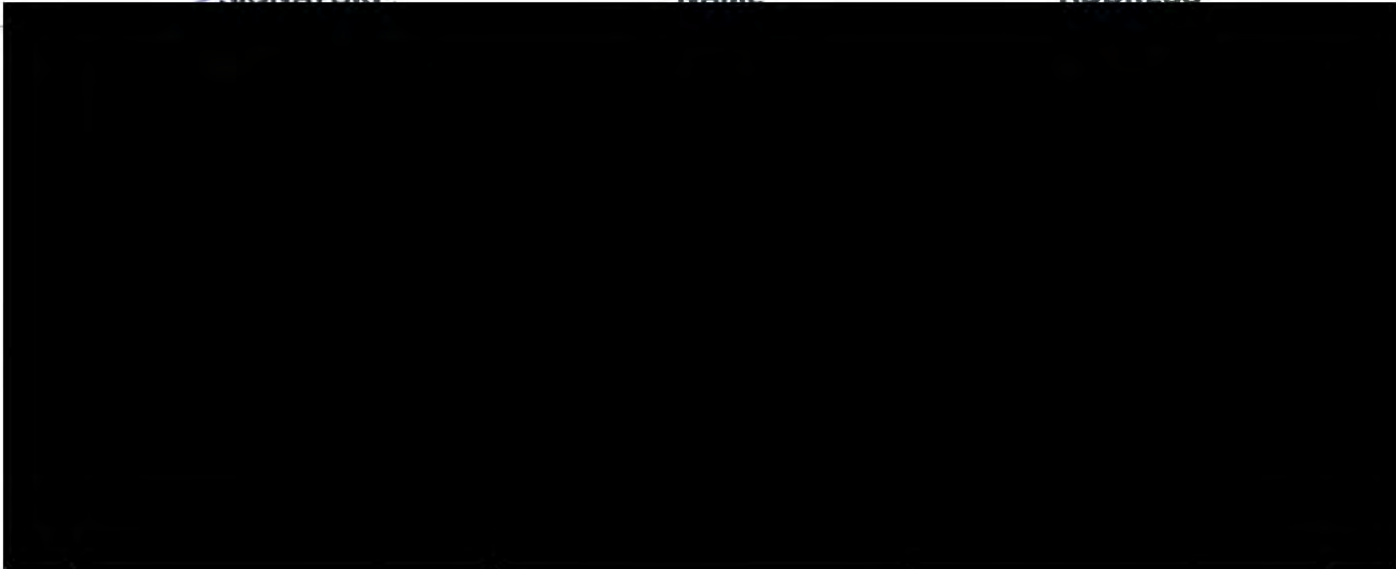
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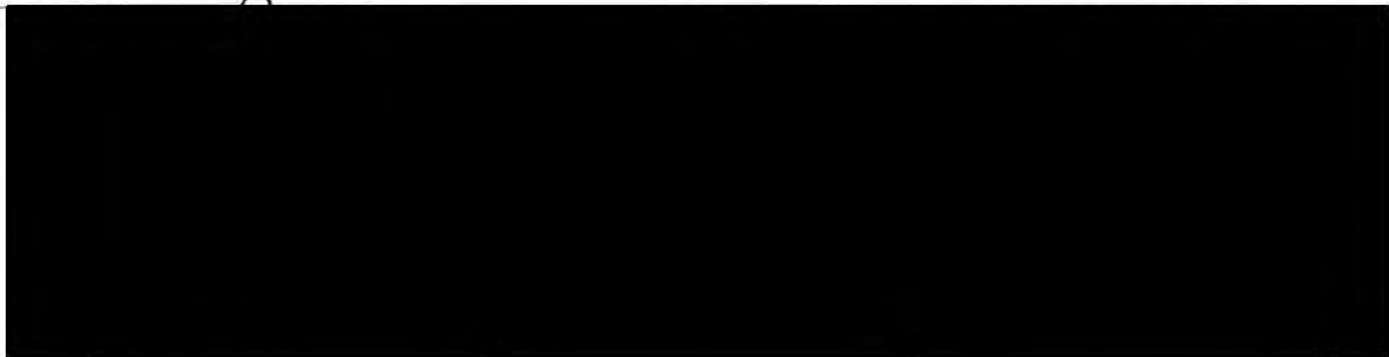
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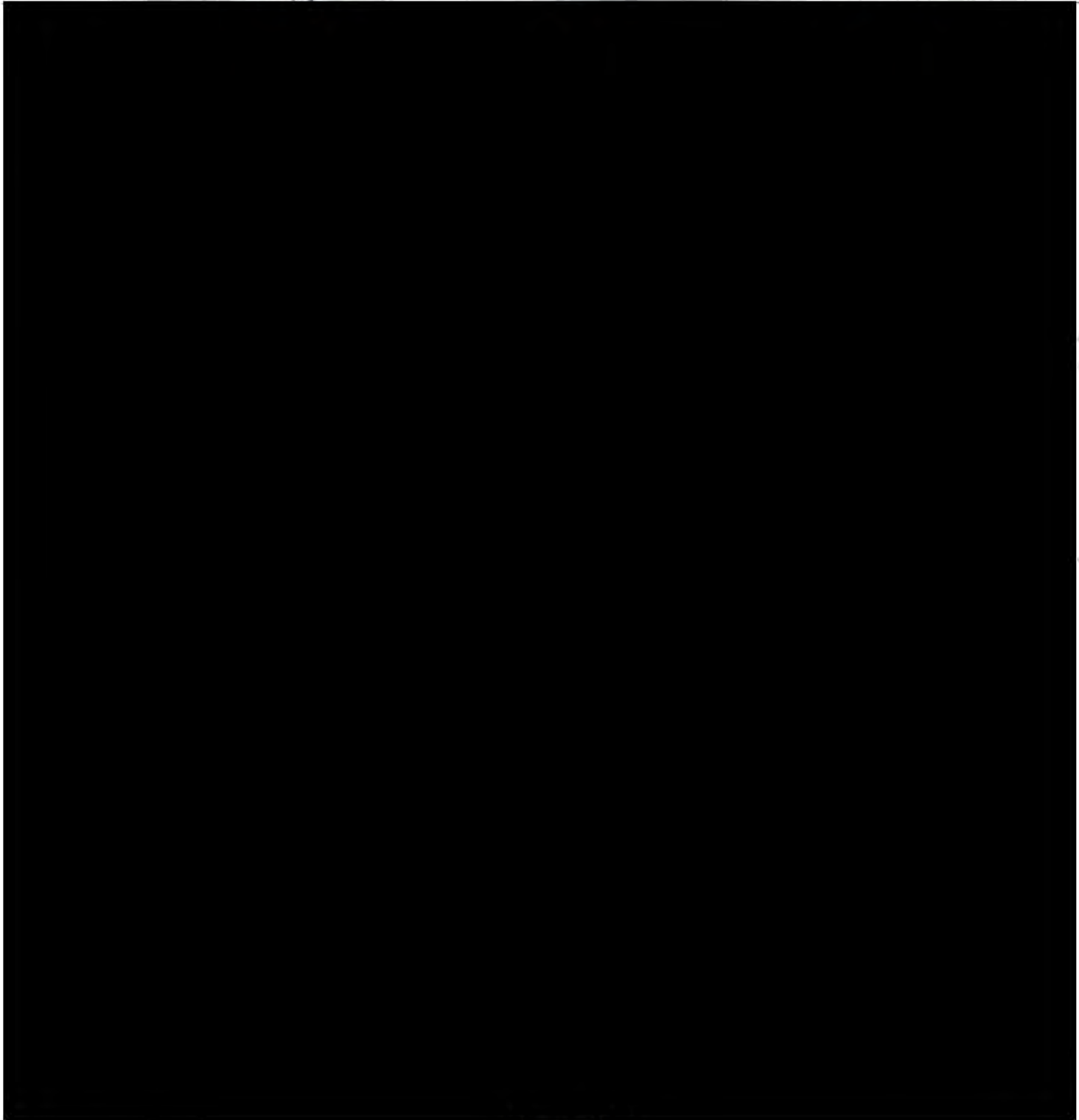
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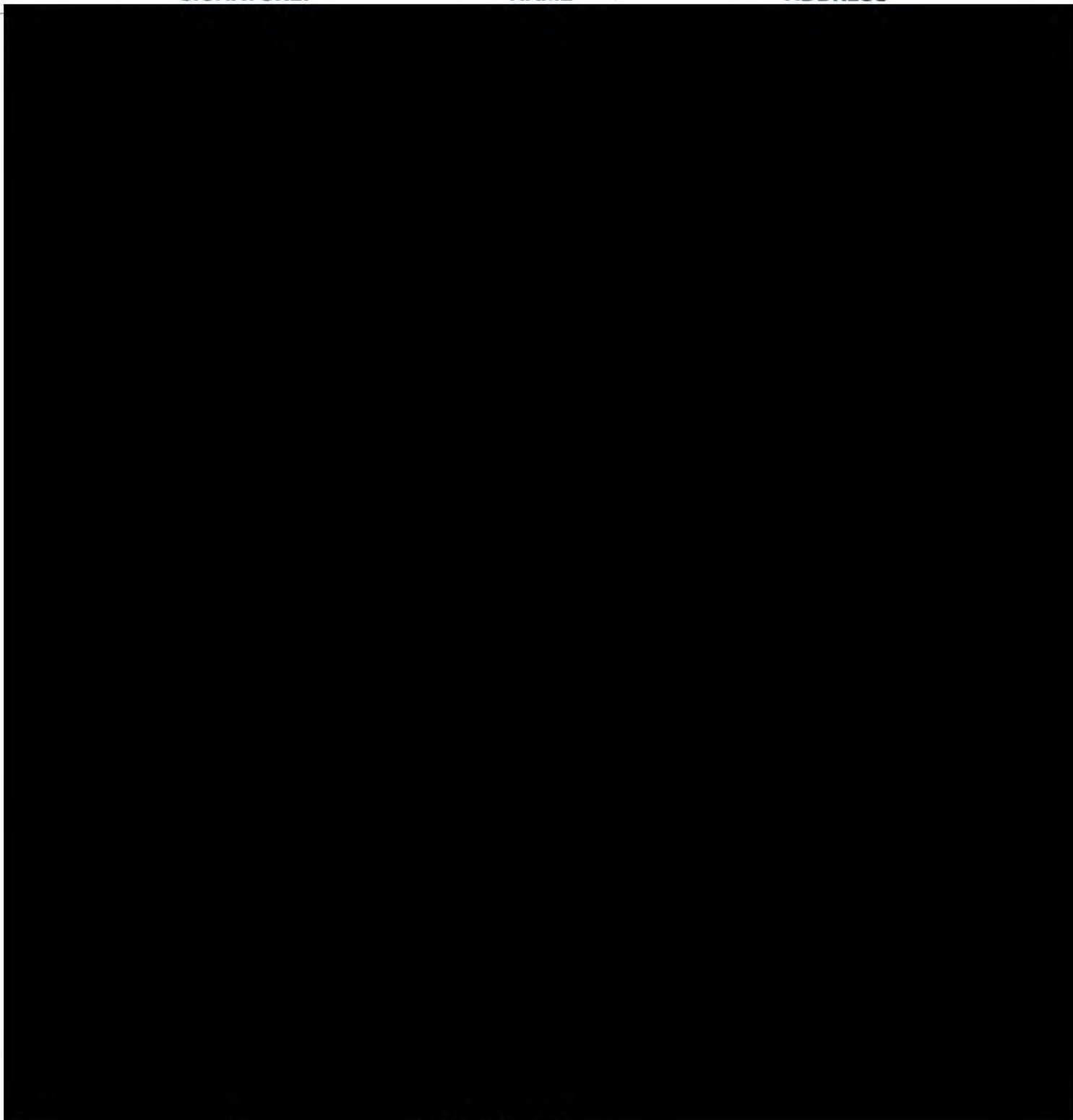
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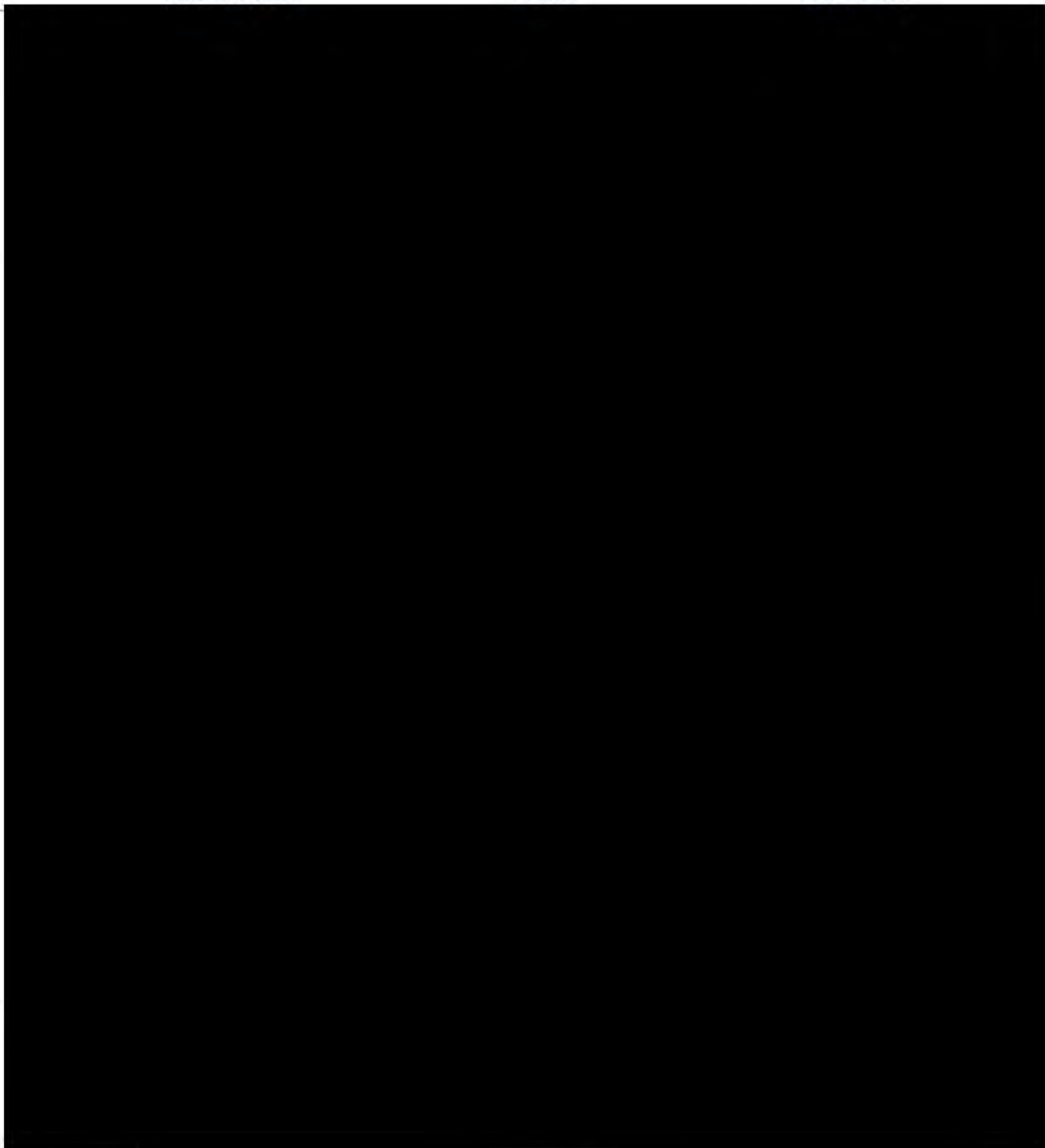
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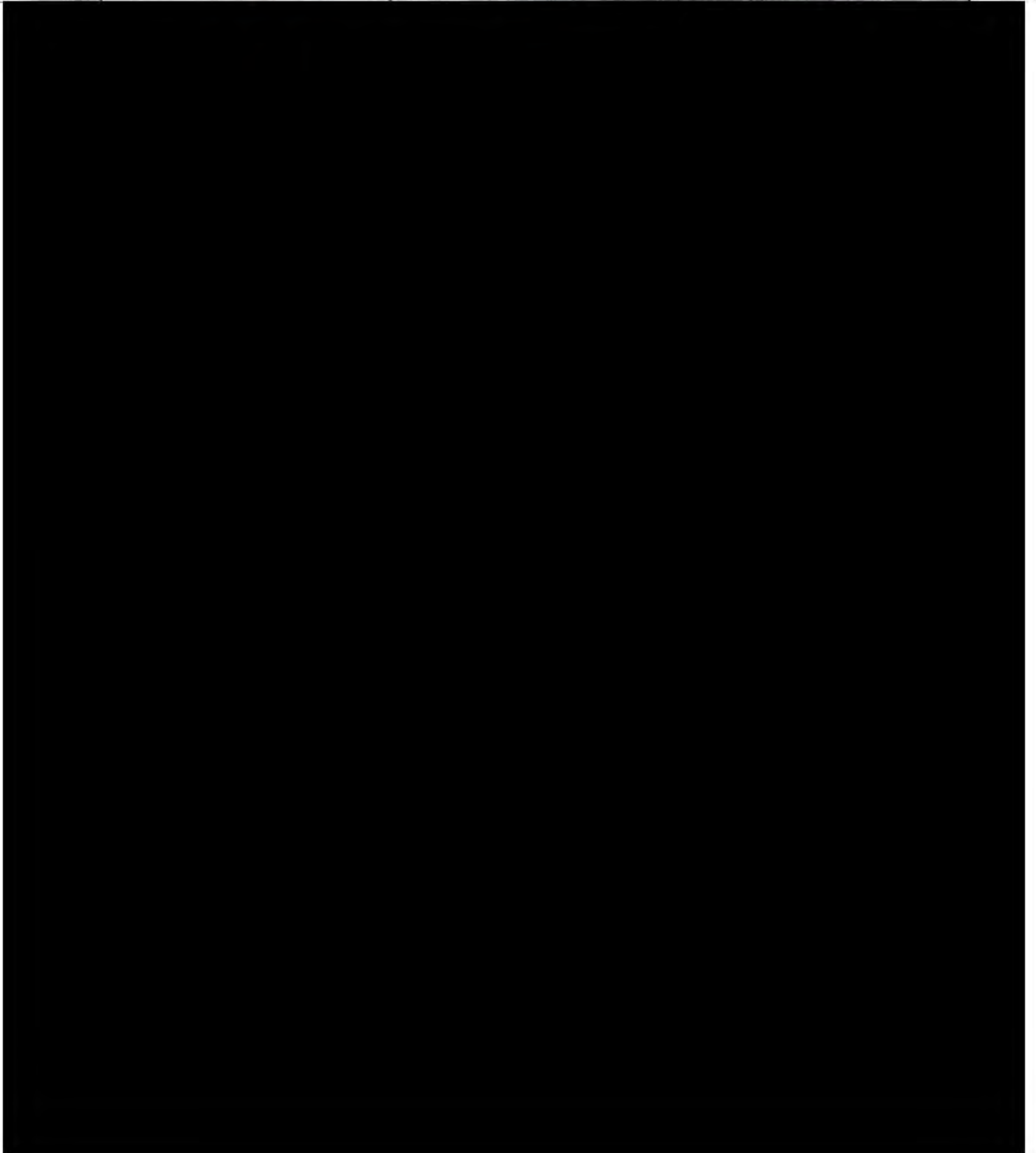
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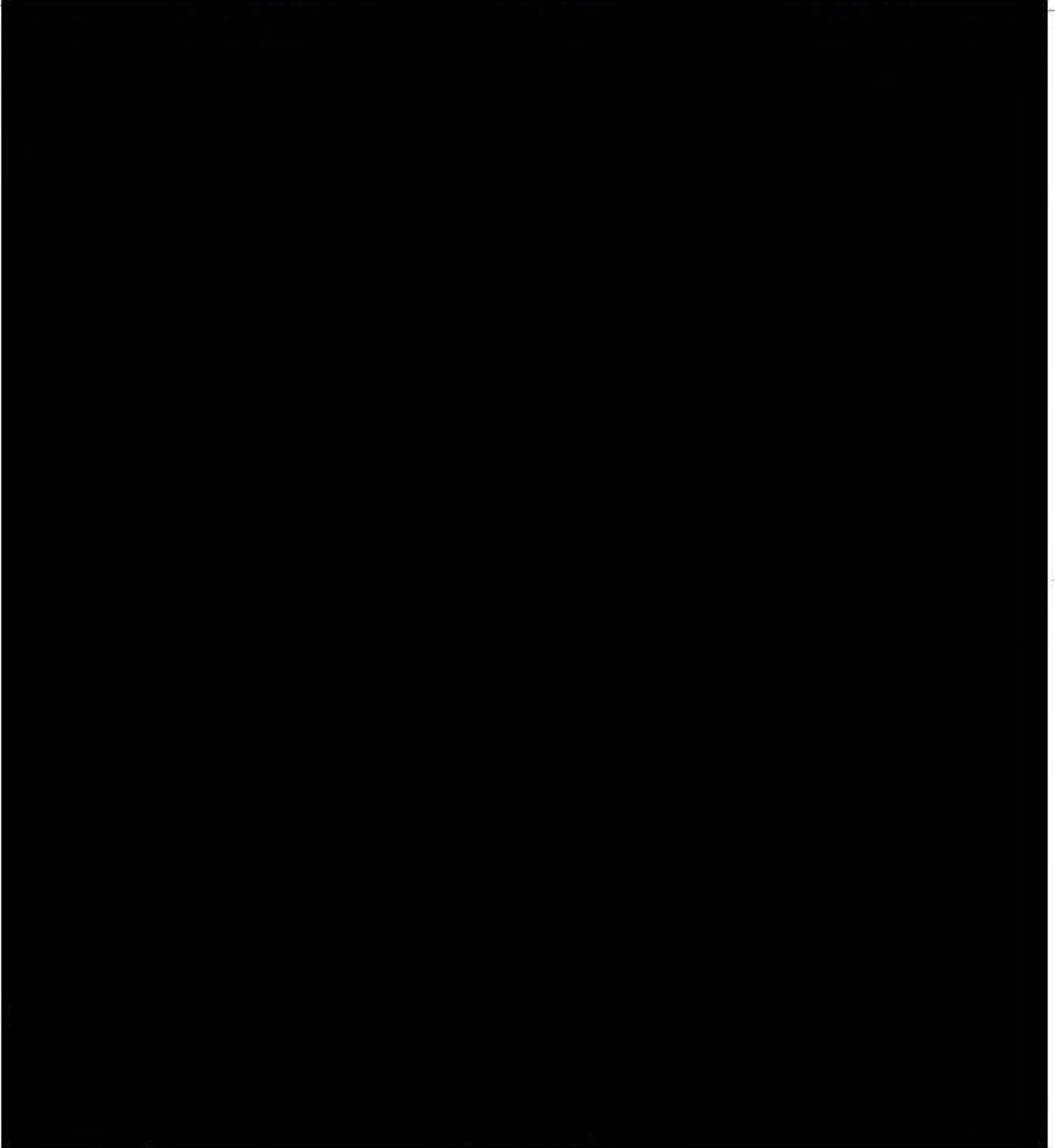
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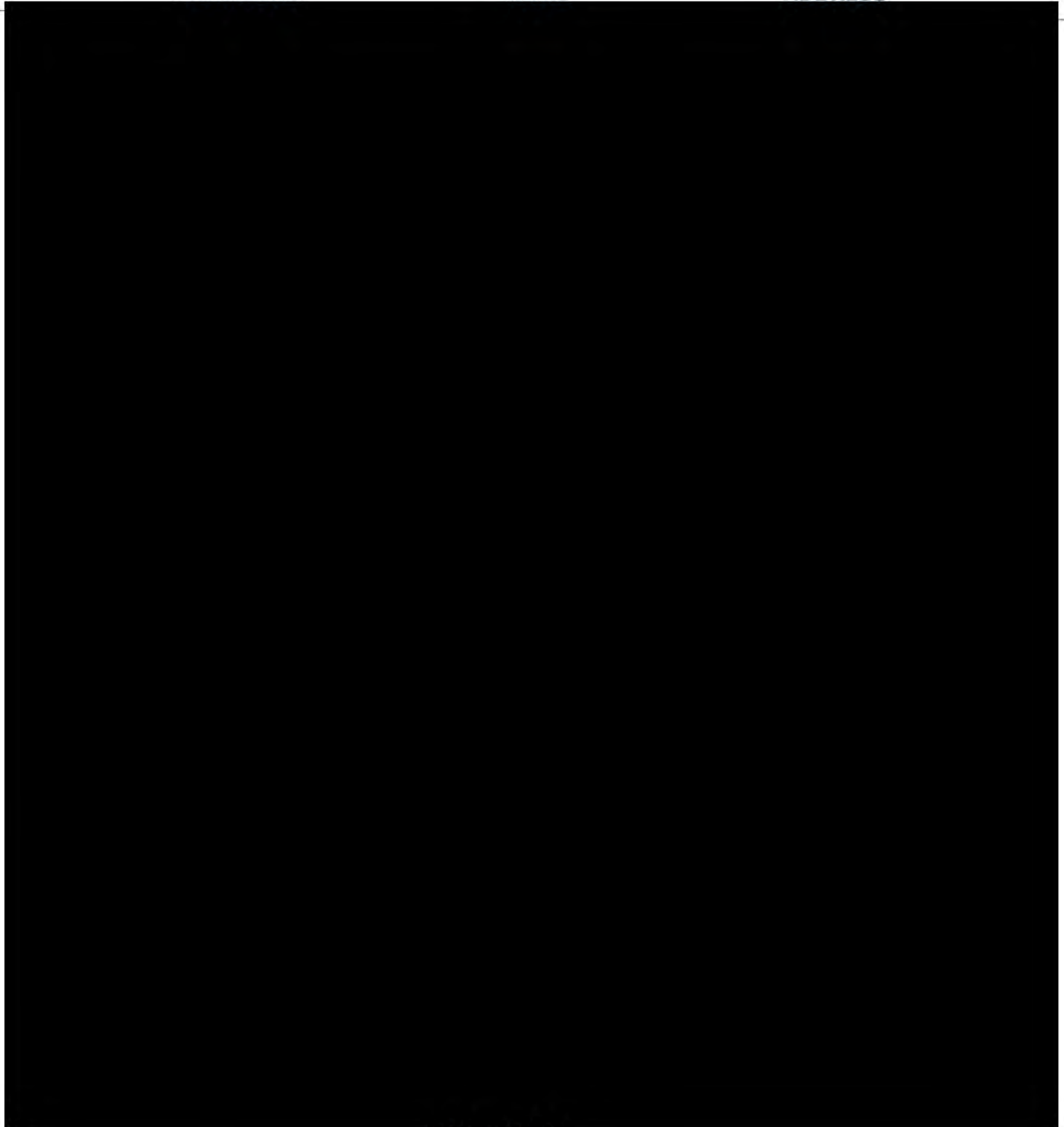
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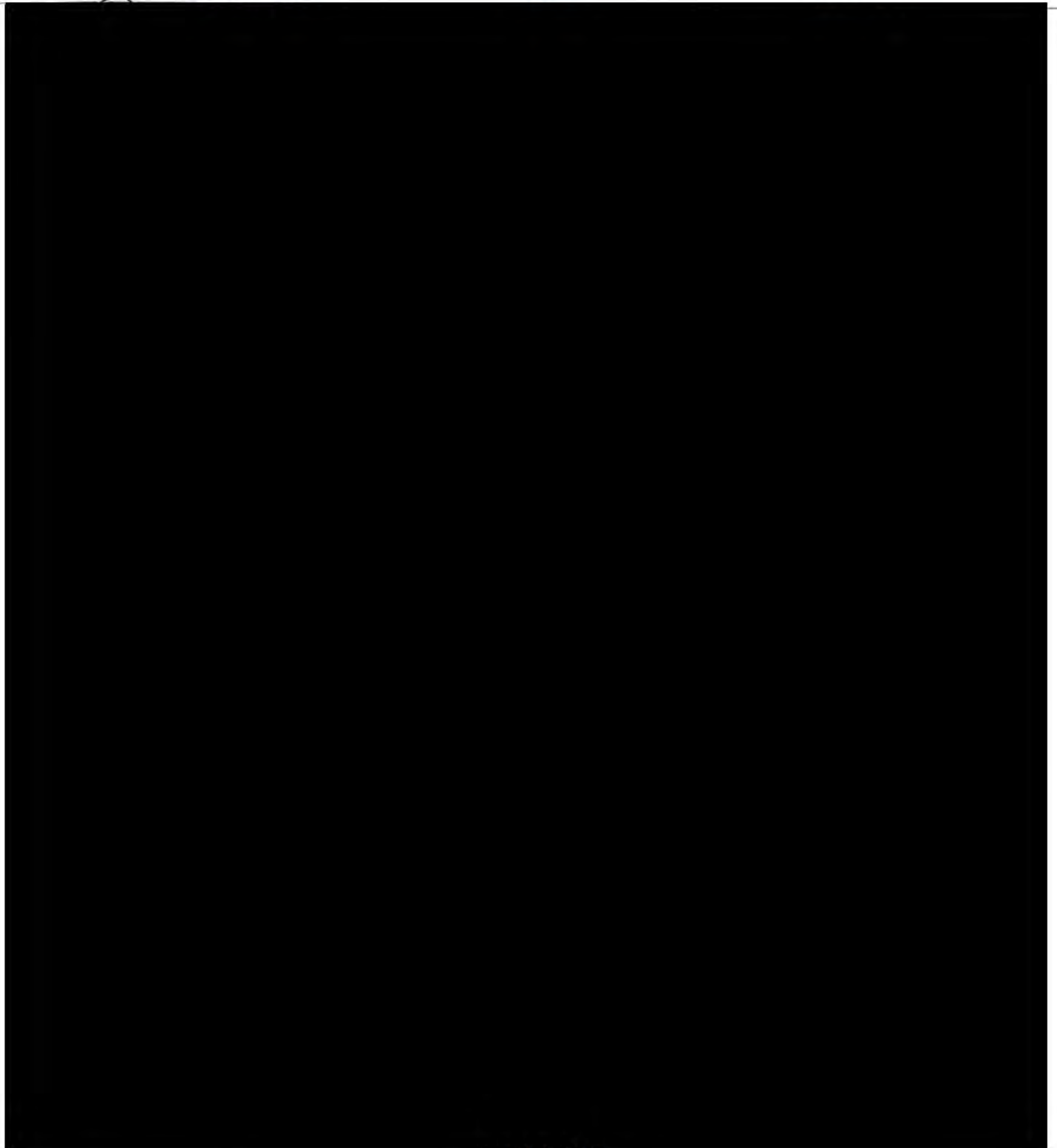
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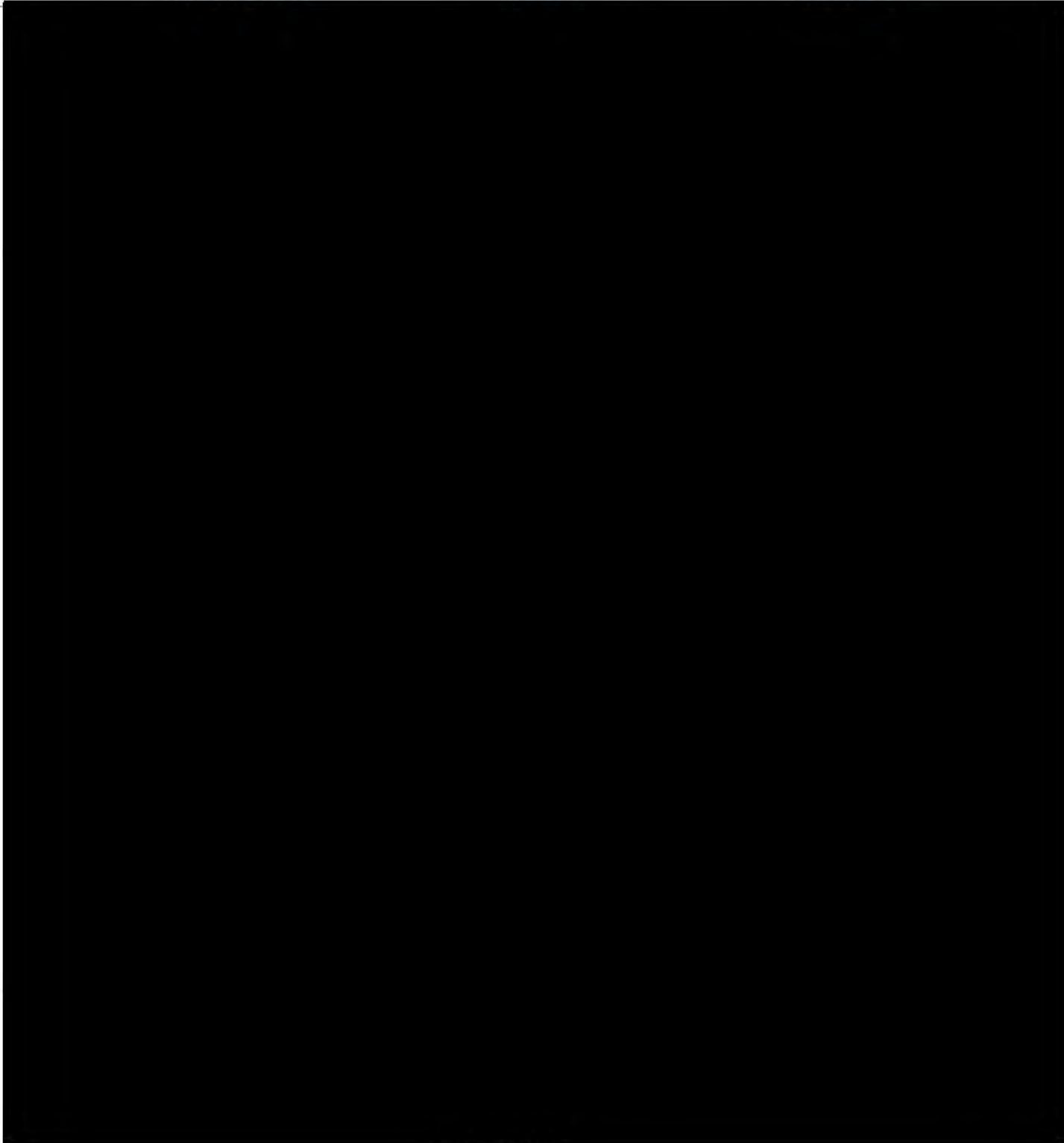
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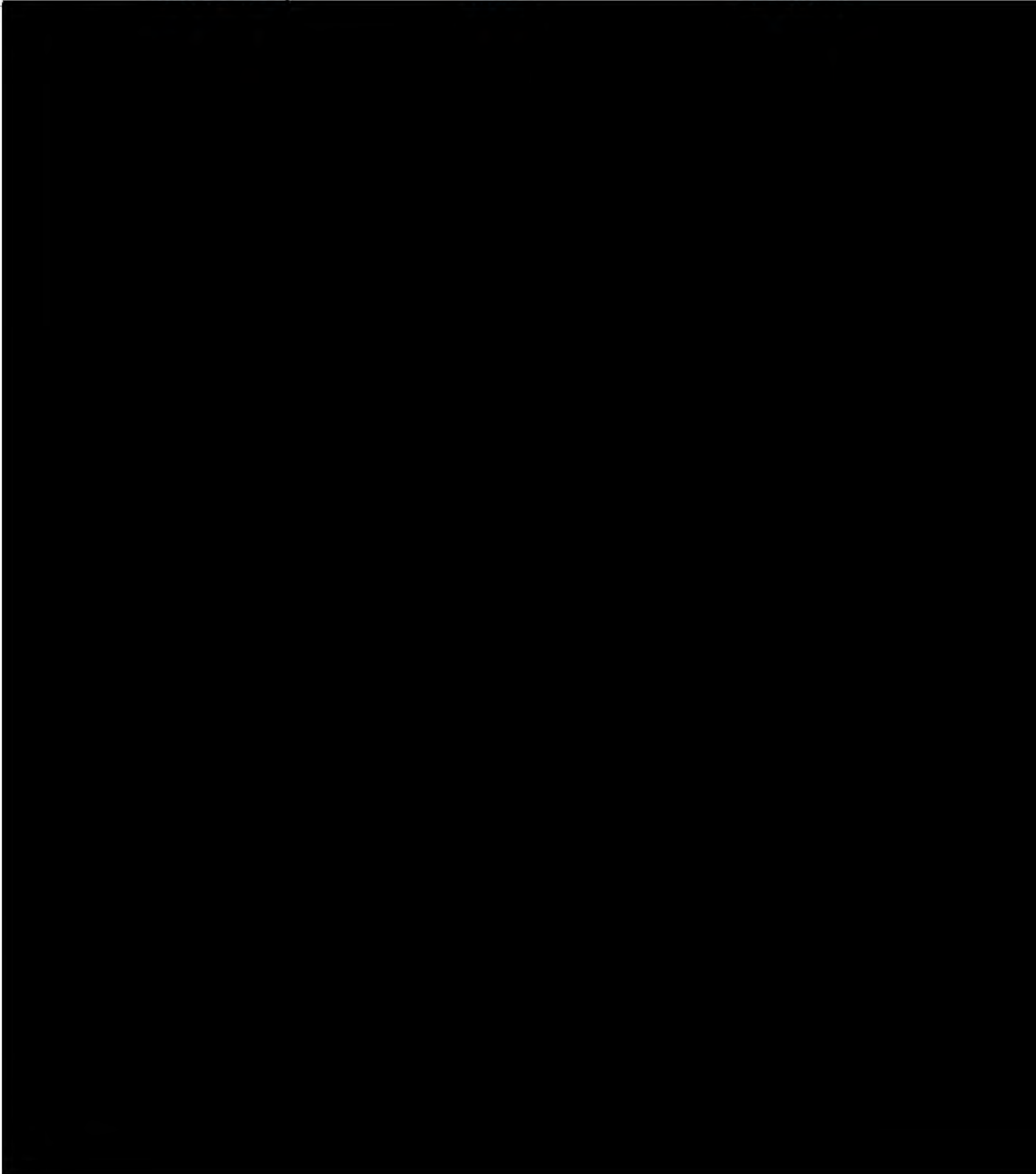
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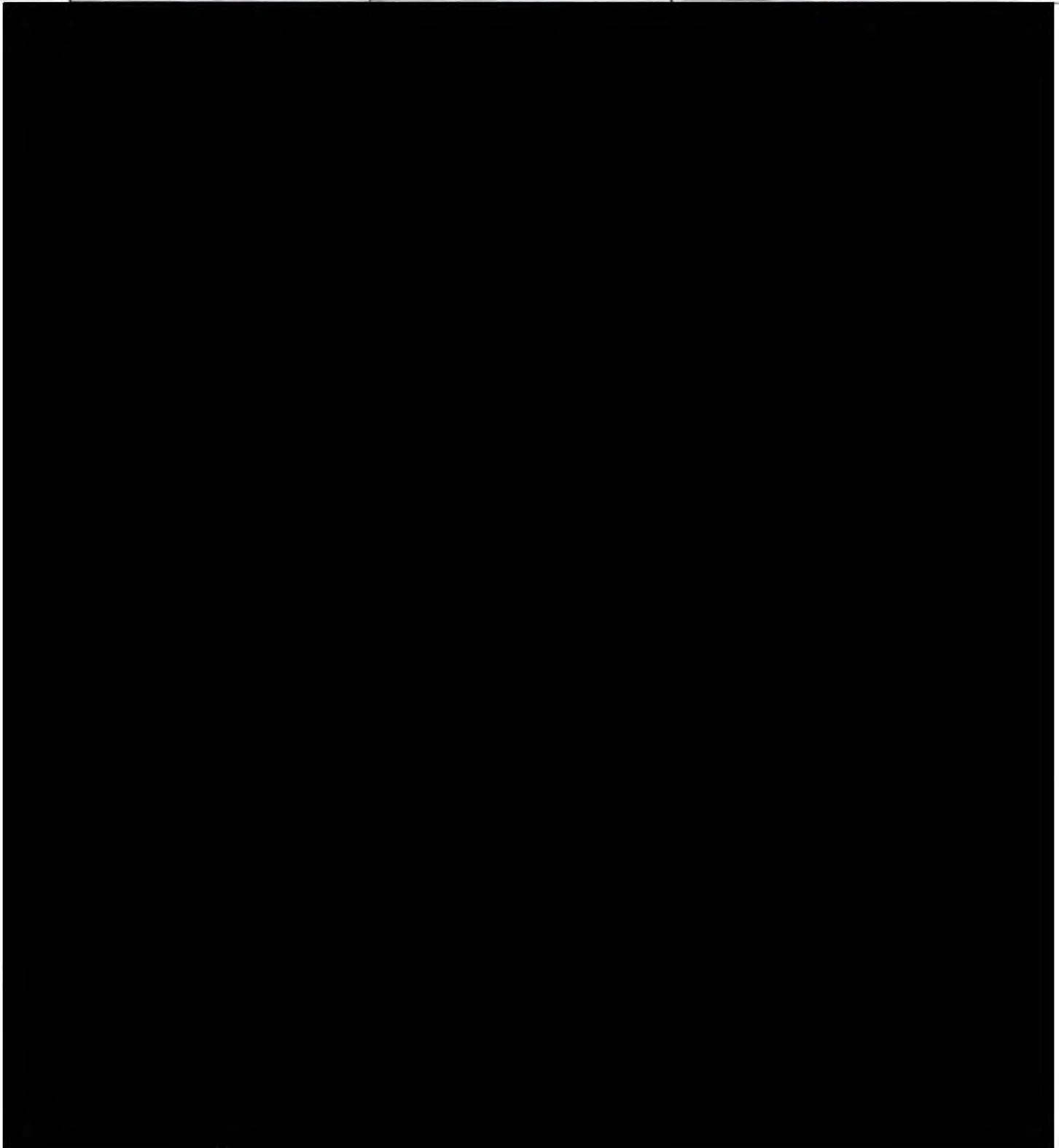
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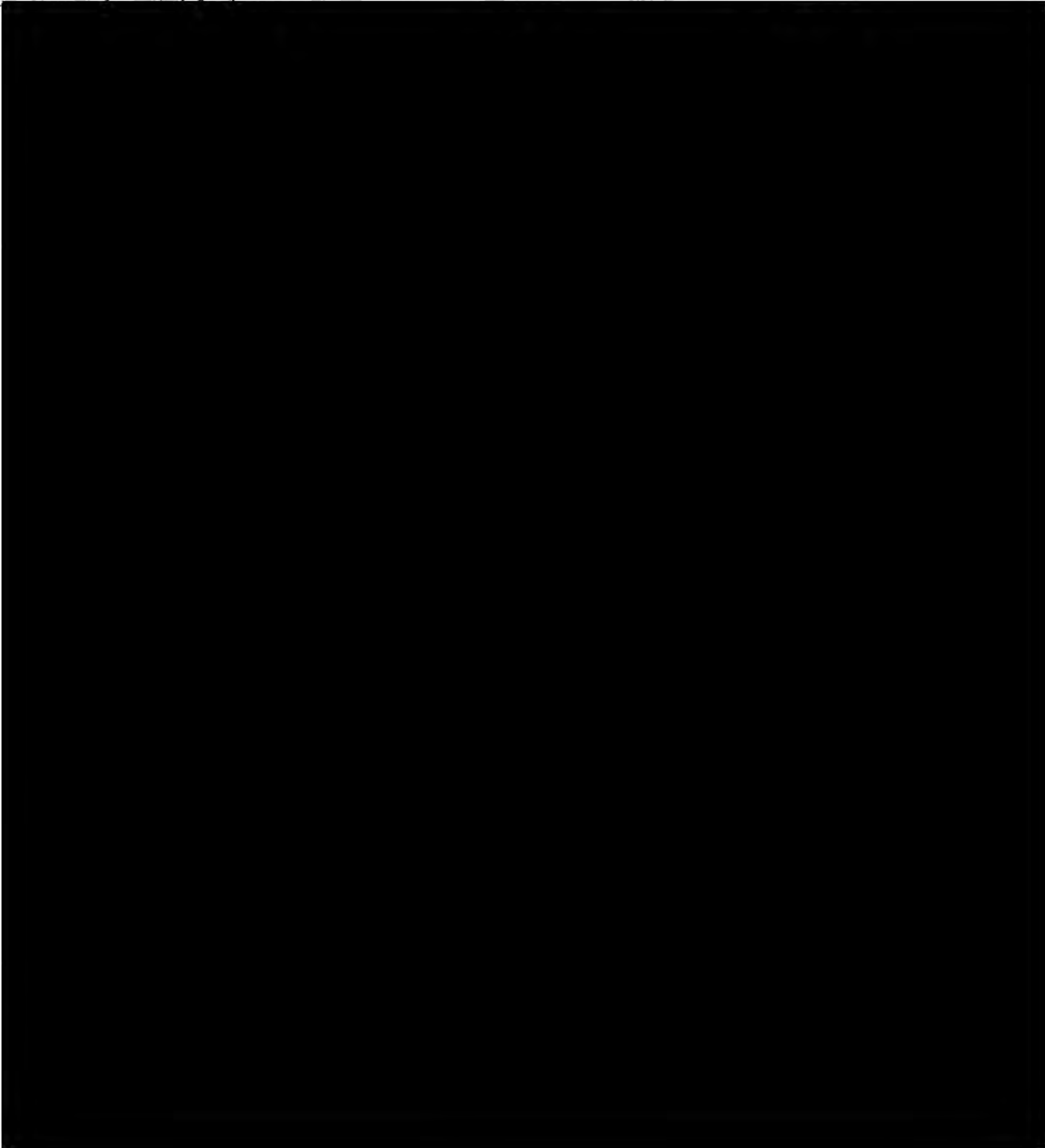
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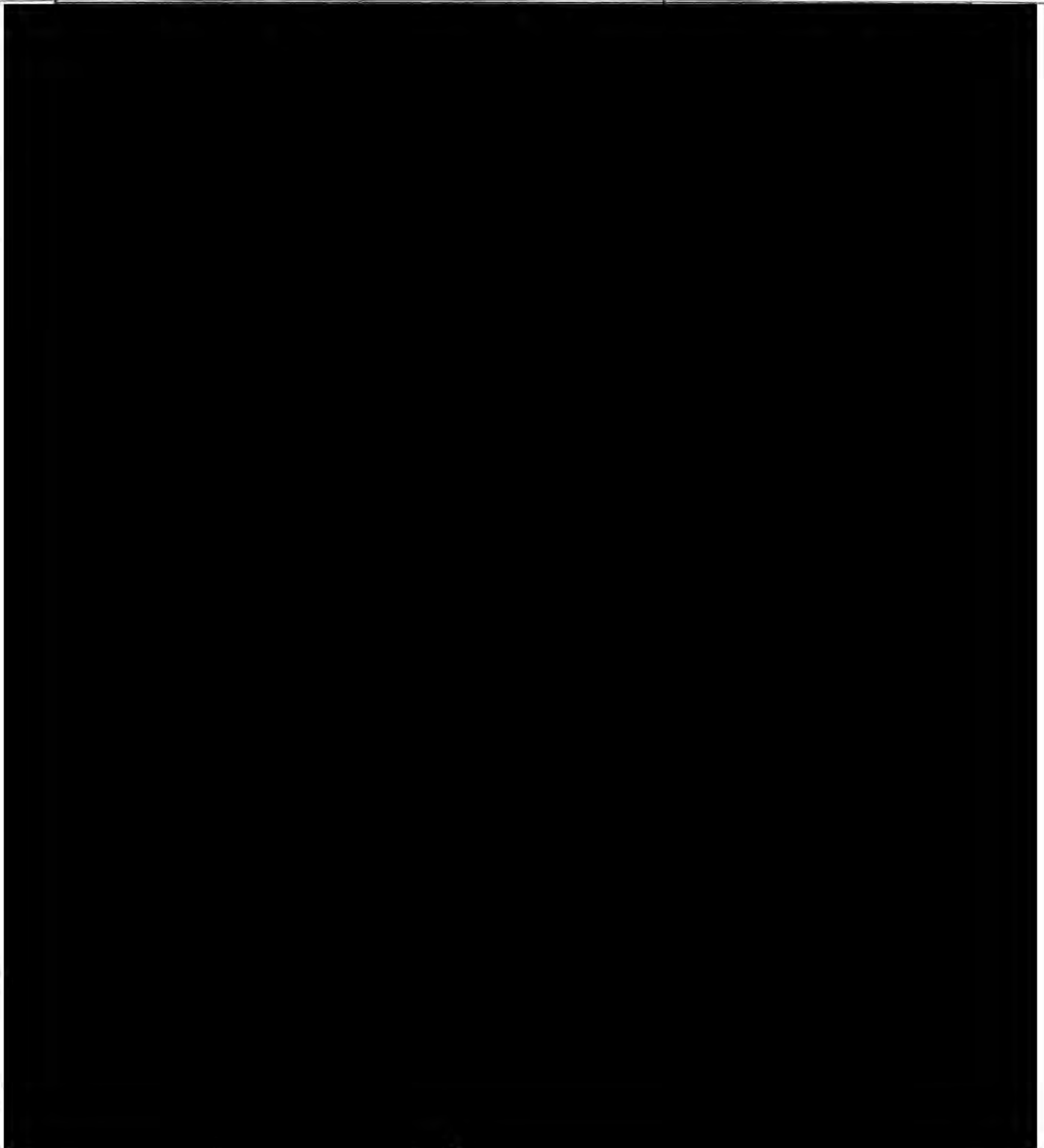
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Councillor Richard Clewer  
Chairman, Electoral Review Committee  
Wiltshire Council

24<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Councillor Clewer,

**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2019**

1. In May 2017 I stood as a candidate in the election for the West Ward of Calne Without Parish Council on a mandate to campaign for a separate council for Derry Hill and Studley. There was a high turnout (49%) and I was elected with more votes than any of the other 6 candidates.
2. My understanding is that the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 provides for local electors to petition their principal council for a community governance review to consider, inter-alia, the establishment of a separate Parish Council for an existing Parish (The Local Government Boundary Commission (LGBC) for England, Guidance on Community Governance Reviews Section 2 Paragraph 40).
3. In accordance with the provisions contained in the 2007 Act and the Boundary Commission guidance I am forwarding a petition seeking the creation of a new and separate Parish Council for Derry Hill and Studley. For the area in question, with over 500 electors, the guidance requires the petition to be signed by at least 250; the petition has been signed by 672 residents.
4. The petition seeks: **The creation of a new parish council to serve the residents Derry Hill and Studley reflecting the significant growth of these communities in the last 40 years. With the new parish comprising the existing West and Pewsham wards of Calne Without Parish Council which represent Derry Hill, Studley and Old Derry Hill. It proposes the new parish should elect 9 councillors in a single ward.**
5. As outlined above, the petition has been signed by 672 residents (700 have been canvassed to date) within the boundaries of the proposed new council area. The number of residents supporting the change represents 55.1% of the registered electorate at the last full Parish elections (2017). This is more than the turnout at the last two elections some 49% in 2017 and some 31% in 2018.

6. There is already a clear majority in support of the change and the collection of further signatures in support has only been curtailed by the requirement to ensure this petition is submitted before October 2019 in line with Wiltshire Council guidance on the submission of material for its governance review.

## BACKGROUND

7. The proposed new Parish of Derry Hill and Studley currently falls within Calne Without Parish Council. This was created in 1890 and covered all the outlying parts of the ancient parish of Calne, these included the ancient tithings of Blackland, Calstone, Stock, Stockley, Studley (which at that time incorporated Derry Hill and Sandy Lane), Whetham, Whitley and the liberty of Bowood. The boundaries have remained largely unchanged for some 130 years despite the significant changes in population and relative community size.
8. Whilst 130 years ago there may have been local ties through local agricultural and estate employment and church to connect these disparate communities, this is no longer the case. The character of the communities reflected this.
9. In the last 40 years the village of Derry Hill in particular has grown significantly as a result of a series of housing developments on land formerly owned by the Bowood Estate. The population is many times greater than in the late 1960s when it was little more than a hamlet comprised of cottages along Church Road. Studley, the predominant settlement in the 1890's has remained a relatively small village although two further housing developments by the Bowood Estate in the last 20 years have seen its centre of gravity move towards the adjacent Derry Hill. The community is now predominantly of residents who are either retired or commute to work beyond the confines of the area, in many cases over long distances.
10. The Boundary Commission Guidance on Community Governance Reviews states 'It can be helpful to undertake community governance reviews in circumstances such as where there have been changes in population, or in reaction to specific or local new issues' (Section 2 para 12). The significant change in size of Derry Hill and Studley and the increase in population, coupled with the wishes expressed by a majority of the community is, I believe, a clear indication a review is required.

## THE NEW PARISH COUNCIL

11. The proposed new council would comprise the Pewsham and West Wards of the existing Calne Without Parish Council. These are predominately made up of the twin adjoining villages of Derry Hill and Studley which along with Old Derry Hill are a very identifiable local community with a school, 3 Churches, a thriving village hall, 3 pubs and a village shop and post office. All key tenants for a viable and identifiable Parish.
12. There are over 1200 voters in the proposed new parish, of which close to 1100 are in the villages of Derry Hill and Studley. The population is more than enough to support a viable parish council; indeed, the proposed parish council

would be the largest within the Calne Area Board with twice or three times the number of voters of other local parishes.

13. The proposal is for a parish with only one ward and 9 councillors, this is favoured as it removes any imbalance in the number of voters represented by each councillor which is an issue with the existing Calne Without Parish Council. It is also in line with the Boundary Commission's current proposals to combine the Pewsham and West Wards and negates the need to address the current bizarre boundary between the two wards. This boundary change has been requested by Calne Without Parish Council. The area is currently represented by 8 councillors (6 in West Ward and 2 in Pewsham Ward), an increase to nine councillors would reduce the potential for tied voting and is supported as the population is expected to grow further as a result of new housing development currently under construction. It would seem appropriate to establish a new council for the May 2021 local elections.
14. A clear and consistent message from residents canvassed for the petition has been that the parish council should be local and ideally based on an identifiable community providing effective and convenient local government. Given the wide geographical spread and very different and distinct communities and disparate levels of representation the current parish of Calne Without is neither local nor an identifiable community. The majority of residents signed the petition in the belief that a new parish for Derry Hill and Studley, with members elected solely from their immediate local community, would be more accountable and responsive to their needs and help strengthen and build a more cohesive community.
15. That belief by residents has been shown by the overwhelming support for the proposed new parish from those canvassed. I and two other parish councillors, Alan Malpas and Keith Robbins, have since mid-August called on households in the area of the proposed council, and have been met with an enthusiastic response to the petition. Although to date several hundred houses have still to be called on, over 95% of residents approached have willingly signed the petition. Only 28 (4%) have declined, the vast majority of which sight apathy or a lack of knowledge of parish councils as their reason.

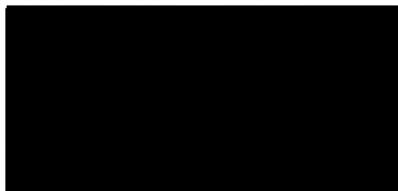
#### CALNE WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

16. No formal motion has been put to Calne Without Parish Council about the proposed change; it is a matter for the community in line with the provisions of the 2007 Act. However, as a courtesy, it has been advised of my intentions to seek to establish the strength of support for the creation of a separate Parish council for Derry Hill and Studley for the reasons stated in this letter.
17. Regrettably, a number of Calne Without parish councillors, predominately from the 3 eastern wards, have placed on record their opposition to a new parish council. The 3 eastern wards of Calne Without (Sandy Lane, East and Middle Ward) have over 900 voters which could easily sustain an albeit smaller Calne Without Parish Council without Derry Hill and Studley.

## SUMMARY

18. The 2007 Act requires that local people are consulted and that representations received in connection with the review are taken into account (Guidance Section 1 paragraph 7) and that steps are taken to notify the outcomes of such reviews including any decisions.
19. The Act requires principal authorities to have regard to the need to secure that any community governance for the area under review reflects the identities and interests of the local community in that area, (Section 1 paragraph 8) and that it is helpful to undertake community governance reviews in circumstances such as where there have been changes in population, or in reaction to specific or local new issues. (Section 2 paragraph 12). It also states that a community governance review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries and remove the many anomalous parish boundaries that exist. (Section 2 paragraph 16).
20. Based on the evidence of the enclosed petition together with significant population and community changes in the last 40 years and a large majority of residents are of the view that there is an overwhelming case and support for the creation of a separate Parish Council to serve the residents of Derry Hill and Studley.

Yours sincerely





26<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Kieran,

**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2019 – A SEPARATE PARISH FOR DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY – SCHEME 40**

Thank you for your invitation to provide additional information further to my letter of 24th September and petition seeking a separate parish council for Derry Hill and Studley. I would like to focus on the key criteria to support a separate parish council and to update members of the Electoral Review Committee about a number of developments since my earlier letter. In particular the outcome of the extraordinary meeting of Calne Without Parish Council that discussed its response to various proposals affecting the parish boundary including the petition for a separate council. The petition has also now been signed by a further 91 residents

Unfortunately, due to my ageing iPad I am unable to complete your digital form. Please accept my apologies and hopefully you will be able to transfer the comments below to the standard form for the benefit of your members and the public.

Addressing the headings of the form:

**1. COMMUNITY IDENTITY AND INTERESTS**

1.1 Community Governance Reviews are required to reflect the identity and interests of the local community, and the effective and convenient governance of that area. It must also give consideration to the impact on the community and the size, population and boundaries of the proposed area.

1.2. The guidance and relevant Act also stress a commitment to parish councils and their role in community empowerment. It is very clear that parishes should reflect distinctive and recognisable communities of interest with their own sense of identity and that the feelings of the local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary consideration.

1.3. The proposed separate parish for Derry Hill and Studley meets all the key criteria as well as providing a parish which is of a size which is more than viable as an administrative unit of local government.

1.4. Addressing specifics. The proposed parish comprising the existing Pewsham and West Wards of the current Calne Without Parish Council is a clearly identifiable community encompassing the adjacent villages of Derry Hill and Studley as well as the neighbouring hamlet of Old Derry Hill and their environs. There are recognisable and well-established boundaries to the proposed parish that follow existing parish and divisional boundaries. Derry Hill and Studley is already identified in the Wiltshire Council Settlement Strategy as a 'large village' and therefore to a degree Wiltshire Council has already recognised it as a distinct and identifiable community

1.5. This designation as a 'large village' recognises the high degree of housing growth that has taken place in the last 40 years which has enhanced the district character and nature of a community. It has a clear identity that is served by three churches, a primary school, post office, a thriving village hall and three pubs. Residents have a clear affinity to the area with a network of local groups and clubs operating within Derry Hill and Studley including the Women's Institute, an art club, badminton club, wood working group, a pre-school play and learning group, Scouting, Mothers Union and a senior citizens lunch club.

1.6. No such links exist with the other parts of Calne Without which is a collection of distant and disparate villages that have no recognisable links with Derry Hill and Studley. The villages on the eastern side of Calne are divided from Derry Hill and Studley by the town of Calne itself. These villages have closer links to the neighbouring parish of Cherhill where their school, their church and their local pub is located. Similarly, with Stockley and Mile Elm, they have even stronger links with the neighbouring parish of Heddington where again their school, church and local pub are. None of these areas have recognisable links with Derry Hill and Studley

1.7 Calne Without is far too big to be a cohesive parish council, stretching over 8 miles from almost the edge of Chippenham to the Cherhill Monument in the east. Parishes should be 'local' and based on a community that residents identify with - very few people can identify with Calne Without.

1.8. The petition of 673 signatures, submitted in late September, demonstrates the strength of feeling within the community for a separate parish council for Derry Hill and Studley. Since the original petition seeking a Community Governance Review was submitted two months ago, more residents have signed the petition to support a separate parish council. As at Monday 25th November a further 97 residents have been canvassed; 91 of which have signed in support, only 6 have declined.

1.9. Based on the 2017 electorate of 1219 adult residents, 65.4% of voters have been canvassed with 62.6% of the total electorate in support and only 2.8% declining to sign for a variety of reasons. An overwhelming majority which represents support from around 95% of voters canvassed.

1.10. The response to the petition from each of the two wards (West & Pewsham) that are proposed to make up the new council is set out below:

	Electorate	Voters Canvassed	In Support	Declined to sign
WEST Ward	1008	628	601	27
PEWSHAM Ward	211	169	162	7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1219</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>34</b>

The table shows that support for the creation of a separate parish is broadly based and not influenced in any significant way by the location of residents within the community. Indeed, despite the claim at the extraordinary parish council meeting that the Pewsham Ward had not been consulted widely, over 75% of the Pewsham electorate have signed the petition.

## **2. EFFECTIVE & CONVENIENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

2.1. Focusing a separate parish council around Derry Hill and Studley will enhance the effectiveness and convenience of the delivery of this first tier of local government. As already outlined above, Wiltshire Council has designated Derry Hill & Studley as a 'large village' thus recognising its distinctive nature from other communities within the existing parish of Calne Without.

2.2. As a 'large village' Derry Hill & Studley has separate and distinct requirements from the small and widely dispersed communities that comprise the remainder of Calne Without. Creating a council drawn solely from this community will enable it to focus on the delivery of services and support to the community of Derry Hill, Studley and its environs.

2.3. The Wiltshire strategy of seeking to disaggregate and minimise certain services to the absolute legal minimum have already seen calls from within the community to address issues such as the appearance and attractiveness of the area as well as pursuing local transport, road safety and environmental issues. To have a fully accountable council focussed on and familiar with local issues and able to address these in an effective and efficient manner from within the community would represent a significant benefit.

2.4. Appropriate elected and accountable representation is a key factor in delivering effective and convenient local government. Within Calne Without the only ward where a competitive election took place in 2017 and again in 2018 was the West Ward which largely comprises the villages of Derry Hill &

Studley. This clearly demonstrates the appetite for community representation and involvement. This has been reinforced during canvassing of voter's opinions on a separate parish council with a number of residents expressing interest in standing as candidates in future elections for a separate Derry Hill & Studley parish council. Pewsham Ward, the other proposed component of a Derry Hill & Studley council, currently has two councillors who stood unopposed in the 2017 elections but again there have been expressions of interest in standing for a separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley.

2.5. A separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley is fully sustainable. Based on 2017 voter numbers the proposals Parish with 1219 voters would be amongst the largest 30% of the 235 parishes in Wiltshire. The new parish would be the largest in terms of voters in the Calne area. Wiltshire Council project that the number of voters is expected to rise to 1316 by 2024. Should Derry Hill & Studley become a separate council the remaining parts of Calne Without would certainly be sustainable as a parish council, as it would have only marginally less voters than Derry Hill & Studley and considerably more than other parishes in the Calne area.

2.6. In seeking a separate parish council, the aim is not to be isolationist, it is about securing better and effective representation for a district and cohesive community. Furthermore, it represents an opportunity to build closer relationships with adjacent councils including the successor to Calne Without. A separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley would look to establish close relationships with Calne and Chippenham Town Councils where we might benefit from economies of scale in participating in shared services to support the community. Similarly, a new parish council may wish to join with smaller parishes to share services more specific to the rural and semi-rural environment.

### **3. OTHER ISSUES**

3.1. The Committee will be aware that Calne Without Parish Council held an extraordinary meeting to debate its response to the petition to create a separate parish council as well as other proposals by Calne Town Council. The meeting was relatively well attended considering it was held in Calne and hastily arranged. All members of the public to speak at the meeting spoke in favour of a separate parish. This included a Heddington parish councillor who spoke eloquently about the potential opportunities for the residual part of Calne Without should Derry Hill & Studley separate.

3.2. Following a presentation and some debate about the case for a separate parish council for Derry Hill & Studley the council considered the following motion:

#### Motion 1

*"That the parish council acknowledges the views expressed by the residents of Derry Hill & Studley and has no objection to the creation of a separate parish".*

The motion was lost by 7 votes to 4. However, a majority (4) of Pewsham and West Ward councillors supporting the motion with 3 local councillors opposing it.

3.3. A second motion (below) was then considered and approved by the same 7 votes to 4:

#### Motion 2

*"The residents of Derry Hill, Studley and Pewsham will not be better served by a separate parish council and it would be to the detriment of Calne Without Parish. The proposal is rejected. However, if Wiltshire Council is minded to accept the proposal, the Parish Council requests that Wiltshire Council considers how they would approve continuation of Calne Without Parish Council or split the parish to other councils".*

3.4. The majority of members representing the area proposed to become a separate council supported the petition's proposals but again views of the overwhelming majority of residents were ignored by councillors from other wards. This precisely demonstrates why residents are so keen to have a greater influence over their own community. The 7 members that represent the other parish wards based mainly

on Calston, Lower Compton and Stockley, have minimal connection with Derry Hill and Studley but wield power and control over decisions on our community's future. Only 4 of them were present (two of whom have never been elected) but it turned the 4 to 3 majority in favour of the petition amongst Pewsham and West Ward councillors, into a 7 to 4 majority to oppose the new parish council.

3.5. For councillors to ignore the wishes of such an overwhelming majority of residents there should be a very clear and compelling reason for doing so. The councillors speaking in opposition to a separate parish council were somewhat light on facts with nebulous arguments. However, two points were made. The first was that the more rural parts of Pewsham Ward had not been consulted. This is not the case as the petition shows. Since it was submitted in September many of the remaining 20 or so, of the most rural properties have been canvassed to ensure broad representation. The numbers in paragraph 1.10 clearly demonstrate very significant support across the whole community.

3.6. The second issue was that the rest of Calne Without had not been consulted. This is the case, but it should be remembered that the proposal is for a separate parish of Derry Hill & Studley. Canvassing amongst the wider parish would be akin to asking England, Wales and Northern Ireland to participate in an independence vote for Scotland. Or for the rest of Europe to vote on the continued presence of the UK in the EU.

3.7. The motion approved by Calne Without Parish Council gives no coherent reason for opposing a separate parish council but simply states that "the residents of Derry Hill and Studley would not be better served by a separate parish council and it would be to the detriment of Calne Without Parish". Frustratingly, no reason was given for reaching this conclusion.

3.8. Finally, in pursuing a separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley we have avoided being presumptuous about the choice that might be made for the remainder of Calne Without; we would undoubtedly be criticised for doing so. It was, however, disappointing that none of the members present at the extraordinary meeting considered what opportunities might present themselves from either continuing as Calne Without, minus Pewsham and West Wards, or seeking to amalgamate with neighbouring parishes with close links.

3.9. Cllr Bryant of Heddington Parish Council made some compelling arguments to examine the combining of Stockley and Mile Elm with Heddington Parish, Lower Compton and Calston with Cherhill Parish and the Ratford area into Bremhill Parish. Whilst Cllr Bryant was speaking as an individual and not representing her parish council her ideas do appear to have merit and some support. This may be something this committee may wish to examine should it be minded to support the wishes of the community and create a separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley. The second part of the motion carried by Calne Without Parish Council proposes such an approach.

I trust this additional information will assist the Committee in making its recommendations and inform our discussion scheduled for Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> 2019.

Yours sincerely,





MAP OF THE PROPOSED SEPARATE PARISH OF DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY



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# Chippenham Town Council

The Town Hall, High Street, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 3ER  
01249 446699

## Chippenham Boundary and Rugby Club

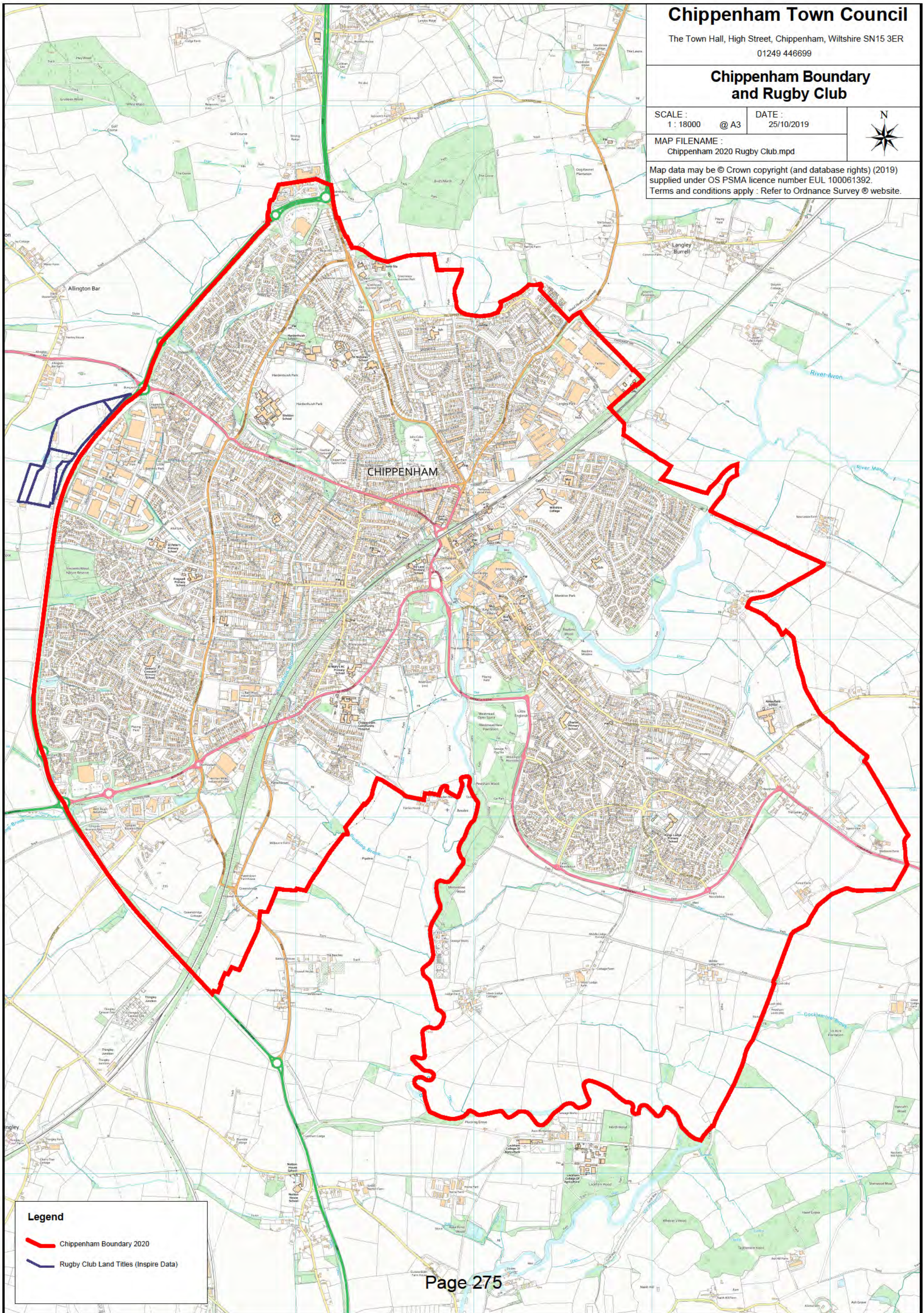
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DATE :  
25/10/2019





MAP FILENAME :  
Chippenham 2020 Rugby Club.mpd

Map data may be © Crown copyright (and database rights) (2019)  
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Terms and conditions apply : Refer to Ordnance Survey © website.



CHIPPENHAM

### Legend

-  Chippenham Boundary 2020
-  Rugby Club Land Titles (Inspire Data)

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## Community Governance Review Request Form

**Name of Town/City/Parish:** Chippenham Town Council

**Governance change requested:**

*(Tick all that apply)*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Change name of parish/parish wards
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change number of councillors for parish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change number/shape of wards for parish
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change external boundaries of parish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change name of parish
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other change

**Details of requested change(s):**

That the Chippenham Town boundary run co-terminously with the proposed Wiltshire Council Electoral boundary with an addendum that the sports facility to the West of the A350 known as Chippenham Rugby Football Club be included within the parish boundary.

**Reason for requested change(s):**

Currently Chippenham Electoral Wards and Town Wards are aligned. This is likely to change following the final recommendations of the Electoral Review published by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in early October. The Town Council would like to align its boundary with Wiltshire Council's Electoral boundary to ensure they run co-terminously.

The Chippenham Rugby Club is frequently used to hold planning consultations for developments within Chippenham. It is currently situated outside the Town boundary and therefore a large number of Chippenham residents are not notified about consultations. It is requested that the Chippenham Rugby Football Club land be included within the Town boundary.

**Date of council resolution(s): 25/09/19**

Detail of council resolution(s): A Community Governance Working Party was set up by the Strategy and Resources Committee on 04/09/19 to consider how to respond to the Community Governance Request Form.

The Working Party met on 12/09/19 and decided to make a recommendation to Full Council that the Chippenham Town boundary run co-terminously with the proposed Wiltshire Council Electoral boundary with an addendum that the sports facility to the West of the A350 known as Chippenham Rugby Football Club be included within the parish boundary.

This was recommended to Full Council on 25/09/19 and agreed - Minute 38 refers:

**37. OUTCOME OF THE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW WORKING PARTY**

The Chief Executive presented the confidential report to Councillors and defined the process of a Community Governance Review.

**RESOLVED that:**

- i) Councillors agreed to submit the Community Governance Review Form with the recommendations as per the report.

Due to confidentiality the specific details weren't included in the resolution but the recommendations in the report referred to were that the Chippenham Town boundary run co-terminously with the proposed Wiltshire Council Electoral boundary with an addendum that the sports facility to the West of the A350 known as Chippenham Rugby Football Club be included within the parish boundary.

**Proposer signature:** [REDACTED]

**Proposer position: Chief Executive, Chippenham Town Council**

**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**

Map can be produced on demand, please contact Heather on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: CGR - West Ashton  
**Date:** 30 September 2019 18:39:43  
**Attachments:** [CGR 2019.pdf](#)

---

Hi Kieran,

The attached is the original map of the West Ashton Parish...

1. Ashton Park housing development allocated designation as defined in the Core Strategy. **This is in the parish already and we oppose TTC land grab**
2. The land formally known as the "Land West of Biss Farm", which has been subject to planning permissions since 1999 **This and the one below (3) should be returned to the Parish of West Ashton and use Back Ball Bridge as the boundary as was the original designation.**
3. Old Farm estate, the former site of Larkrise Farm. The farm will be adjacent to the re-routed A350 in the parish.

Regards

Richard

---

**From:** Elliott, Kieran [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 September 2019 14:54  
**To:** Richard  
**Cc:** 'Steven King'  
**Subject:** RE: CGR - West Ashton

Hello Richard,

For the sake of clarity, if you could provide a map setting out precisely the areas referenced in options 1,2 and 3 that would be of assistance – while I have various maps at hand, it would be best to avoid any confusion by receiving such direct from the parish for this review request.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**

---

**From:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Sent:** 30 September 2019 14:17  
**To:** Richard [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** 'Steven King' [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: CGR - West Ashton

Hello Richard,

I acknowledge receipt of the provisional request for CGRs as detailed, subject to confirmation from the parish council.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**

---

**From:** Richard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 30 September 2019 14:15  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** 'Steven King' [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** CGR - West Ashton

Dear Kieran,

Following on from previous email exchanges regarding the requested Community Governance Review by Trowbridge Town Council.

I would advise that West Ashton's emerging Neighbourhood Plan has been adversely affected by delays by Wiltshire Council issues regarding the HRA and whether a SEA is required. The Ashton Park development in particular is part of the parish of West Ashton.

Therefore to help safeguard West Ashton's ability to meet its Neighbourhood Plan objectives and beyond, I'm proposing that West Ashton request a Community Governance Review of its own.

This CGR will have focus on land as follows:

4. Ashton Park housing development allocated designation as defined in the Core Strategy.
5. The land formally known as the "Land West of Biss Farm", which has been subject to planning permissions since 1999
6. Old Farm estate, the former site of Larkrise Farm. The farm will be adjacent to the re-routed A350 in the parish.

Please note 1 and 2 above at the time of the previous boundary review in 2016 were recommended not to be moved into Trowbridge area by the working group set up to evaluate proposed boundary changes.

I understand that the end date for CGR requests is 1st October?

In this respect, I would be grateful if you could treat this email as a declaration of intent request for a CGR until such time that the proposal can be ratified by the Neighbourhood



Plan Steering Group and full Parish Council. This ratification process should be completed by mid October at the latest.

Thank you.

Regards

Cllr Richard Covington  
Chairman West Ashton PC and NP Steering group

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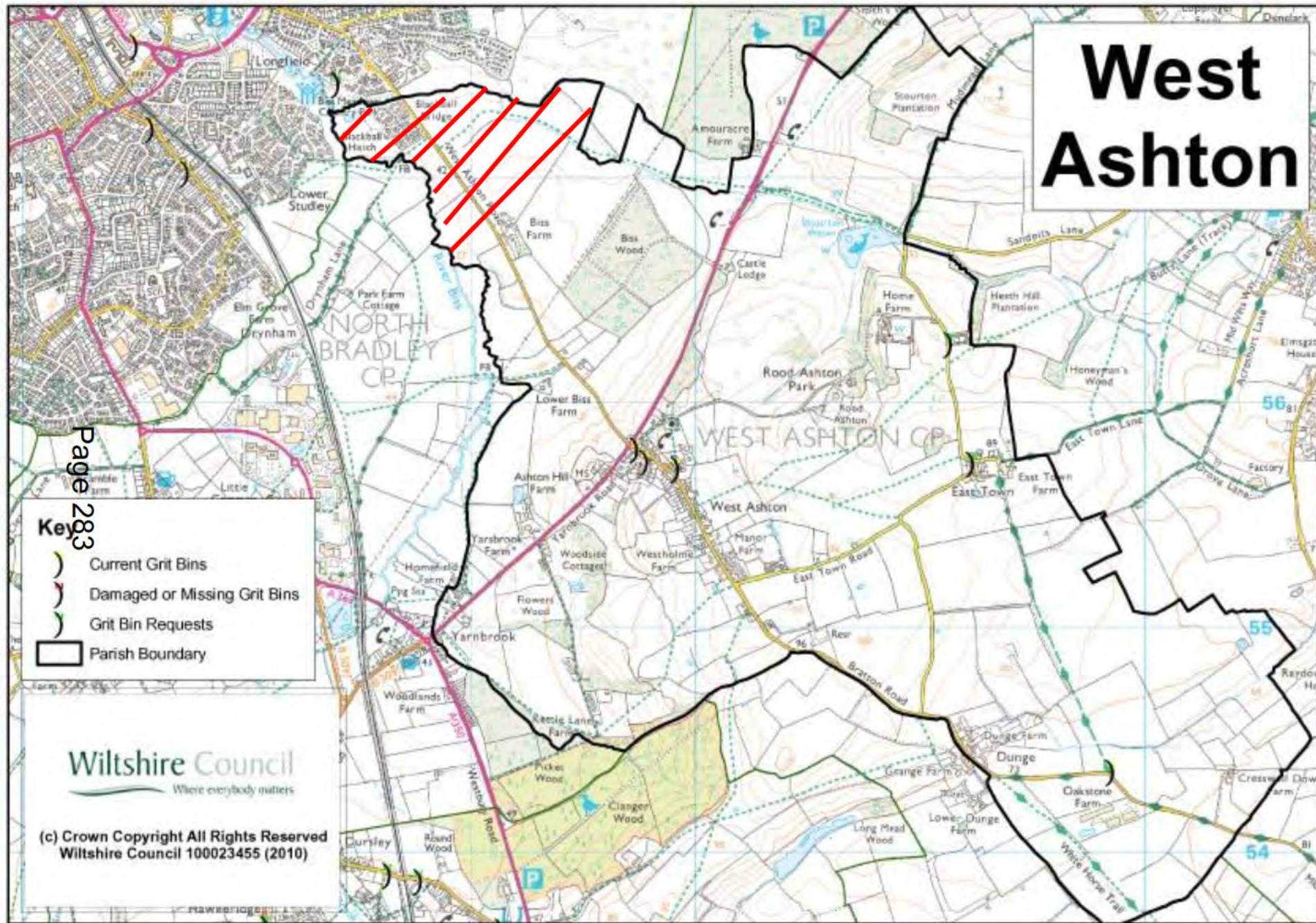
# West Ashton

Page 283

- Key**
- Current Grit Bins
  - Damaged or Missing Grit Bins
  - Grit Bin Requests
  - Parish Boundary

**Wiltshire Council**  
Where everybody matters

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**From:** Annie Child [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 October 2019 10:31  
**To:** Democratic and Member Services  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review

Dear Kieran

I have circulated your email to all SCC councillors and the consensus amongst those councillors who have responded is that the City Council's Ward boundaries should be the coterminous with the Wiltshire Council Divisions.


For your consideration please.

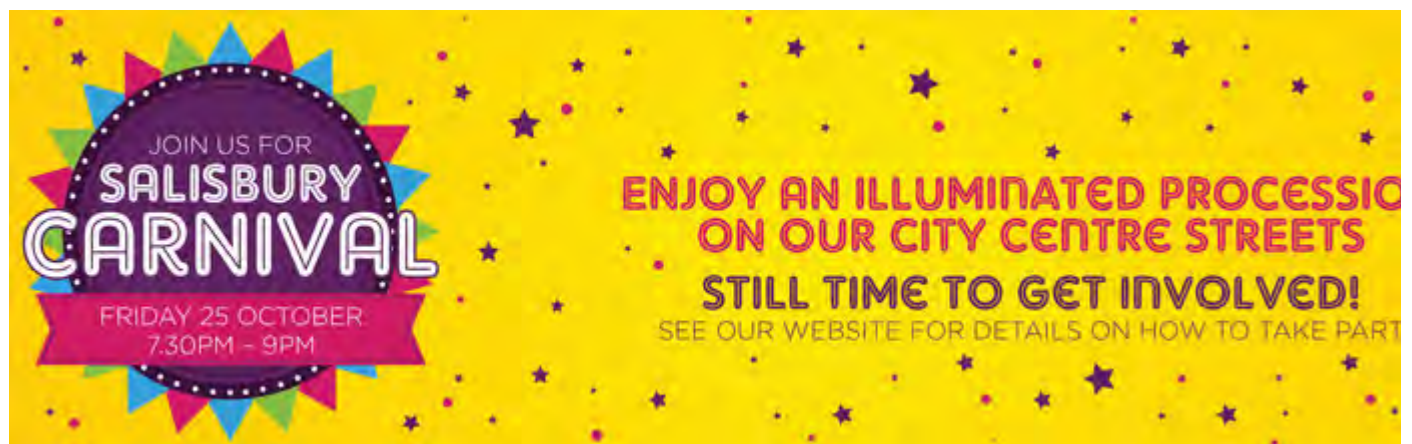
Best wishes

**Annie Child PSLCC**  
City Clerk  
Salisbury City Council  
The Guildhall  
Market Place  
Salisbury  
Wiltshire  
SP1 1JH

[REDACTED]

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/SalisburyCC>

 please don't print this email unless you really need to



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**From:** Democratic and Member Services [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 October 2019 09:56  
**To:** Annie Child [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review  
**Importance:** High

Hello,

Further to the proposed CGR below in relation to Harnham West, I had a query regarding the consequential warding that was undertaken by the LGBCE in respect of Salisbury.

The LGBCE have made the City Wards coterminous with the Unitary boundaries everywhere except the Salisbury Milford Division, which they have divided into 2 wards - Salisbury St Marks and Bishopdown, and Salisbury Milford, with 1 and 2 councillors respectively.

I could find no explanation in the LGBCE report why they have divided this area into 2 wards rather than a single ward coterminous with the unitary boundaries, so thought it would be best to enquire with the City whether they were happy with that arrangement or if there were any tweaks to the warding arrangements they would like which could be taken up through a CGR?



### Final recommendations

Salisbury City Council should comprise 23 councillors, as at present, representing nine wards:

Parish ward	Number of parish councillors
Salisbury Bemerton Heath	3
Salisbury Fisherton & Bemerton Village	3
Salisbury Harnham East	3
Salisbury Harnham West	2
Salisbury Milford	2
Salisbury St Edmund's	3
Salisbury St Francis & Stratford	3
Salisbury St Mark's & Bishopdown	1
Salisbury St Paul's	3

# CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

www.chippenhamwithoutparishcouncil.gov.uk

Vivian A Vines MBE  
Clerk of the Council

26 September 2019

Democratic and Member Services  
Wiltshire Council

Dear Democratic and Member Services

## Community Governance Review – Wiltshire

I refer to your Email of the 12 July 2019 and follow up of the 28 August 2019 requesting a response by October 2019.

My Council has taken time to consider the issues as they consider the matter of great importance.

As a matter of interest the Parish has been Designated as a Neighbourhood Plan Area and the process of developing the Plan on the existing Parish Boundaries is ongoing.

The Council has determined that their preference is for the status quo and wishes no changes to be considered. The Council met last evening and the official Minute relating to the matter is as set out below:

### Council Meeting 25.09.19 Minute 38/19 (d) Clerks Report

Community Governance Review. Pursuant to Minute 28/19 (n). Wiltshire Council had invited Parish and Town Councils to submit any requests for changes, including naming of Parishes, or its Wards, total number of Councillors, creation of Wards, changes to external boundaries of the Parish, or the creation/abolition/merger/grouping of Parishes and other such changes. It was noted that any proposals from other authorities/bodies/organisations could have a significant impact on the Parish and **the Council agreed that** there was a need to submit a Council response stating that there was a preference for the status quo with no local requirement to alter any existing boundaries and arrangements. In reaching this conclusion the Council was mindful of a previous Council decision, made on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016, in regards to a request from the late [REDACTED] to move Cedar Lodge, Allington into the Chippenham Without Parish from Kington St Michael Parish and subsequently supported by that Council following consultation. Wiltshire Council had been advised of the request by letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016 and would be reminded. **Cllr H Ham proposed, Cllr P Reynolds seconded and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY**

Reference is made in the Minute to a previous very minor boundary change submitted in 2016 and as part of this communication I attach the letter set to Mr John Watling, no longer employed by your Council, that is referred to. To further assist I attach the Report paperwork that the Parish Council considered in relation to the matter that indicated the site involved that is within the Allington Conservation Area Boundary but at the present time lies within the

Kington St Michael Parish. You will note that that Parish was consulted and has no objections to the change.

Finally, for the purpose of confirmation. The Parish Council at a previous consultation stage submitted a request for a Parish name change to Allington & Sheldon Parish Council. The intention being to better identify the Parish using historic names. Subsequently, Mr Watling was advised that the request was withdrawn. I simply reiterate this to avoid the circumstances occurring whereby your Review still considers this.

The Council trusts that their views will be accepted and that your own Council resolve to support these local views.

Yours sincerely

*Vivian Vines*

For Chippenham Without Parish Council



next on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in the Goss Croft Hall, Upper Seagry. To agree Council representation. **(For Decision)**

- ii) To consider any new, and review any previous local issues within the Parish, that should be raised with the Chippenham Community Area Parish Forum, which next meets on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.30pm in the Kington St Michael Village Hall. To agree Council representation. **(to note) (For Decision)**
- j) Kington St Michael Neighbourhood Plan – To receive any updates and to consider progress.
- k) Village Newsletter – To raise general issues and agree editorial if necessary.

**9. CLERKS REPORT:** To note items received for decision, information, circulation and for future discussion and matters arising and updates from previous meeting/s

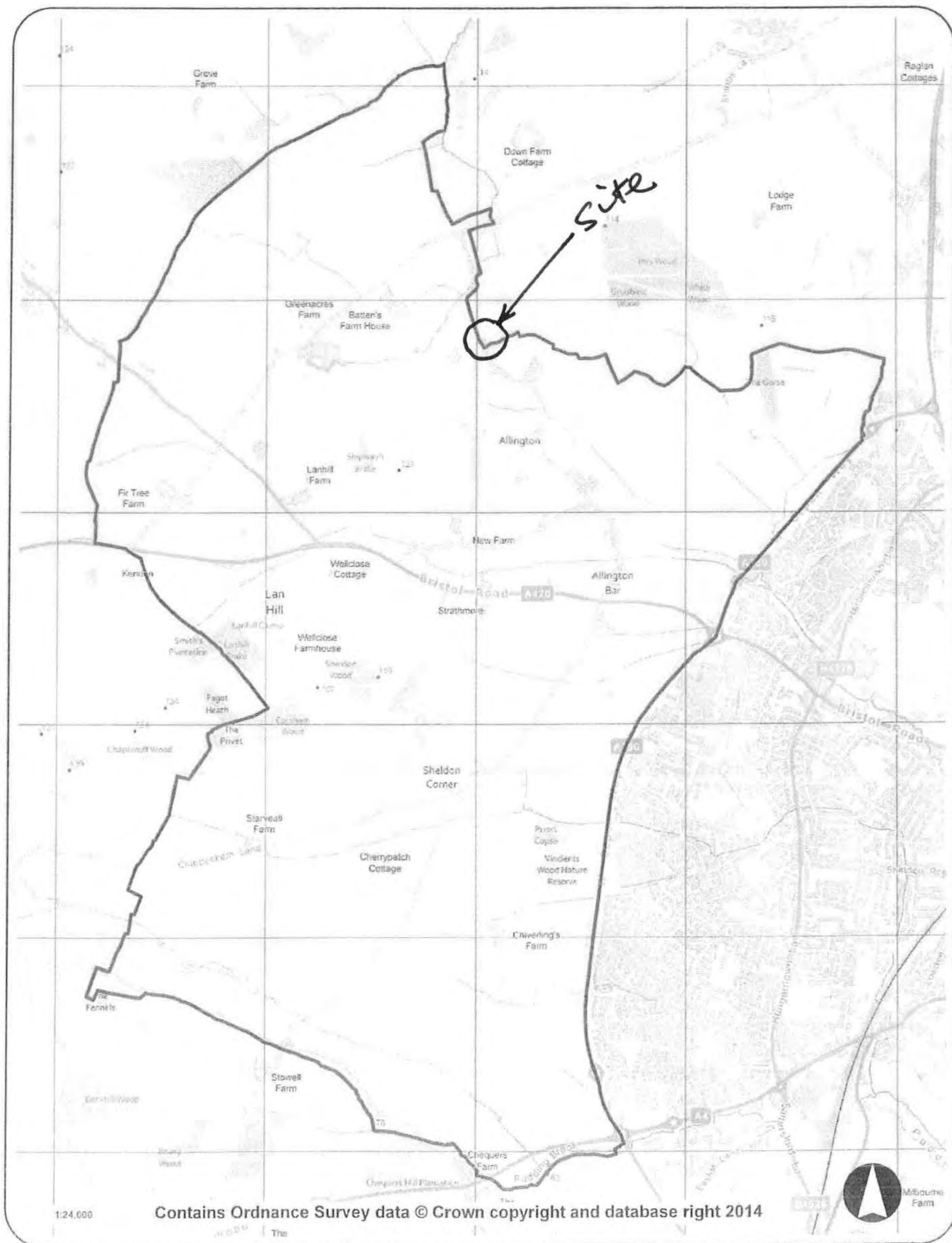
- a) Kington St Michael Village Shop Ltd. To note receipt of a letter of thanks, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016, in regards to the Council's donation of £450.00 towards the Post Point in the Village Shop. **(see attached) (to note)**
- b) The Ridings, Kington St Michael. Pursuant to Minute 16/018 (c) in regards to the erection of a picket fence erected on land that was to be retained as open plan has been reported to Wiltshire Council enforcement. **(see attached) (to note)**
- c) Wiltshire Council owned Footpath. Pursuant to Minute 16/016 (c) The Council has reported the concerns regarding the condition of the Footpath from rear of School to The Ridings and High Street. **(to note)**
- d) Wiltshire Council Chippenham Site Allocation Modifications. To note that a Consultation on the proposed modifications is taking place from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2016. **(see attached) (to note)**
- e) Community Emergency/Resilience Plan. Pursuant to Minute 16/018 (g) Mrs L Durno has provided updates and the Wiltshire Council Template can now be completed by the Clerk and circulated to Wiltshire Council and interested parties. **(to note)**
- f) Chippenham Without Parish Boundary. The Chippenham Without Parish Council has received a request from [REDACTED] Cedar Lodge, Allington SN14 6LW to support a boundary change that transfers Cedar Lodge from Kington St Michael Parish to Chippenham Without Parish. The Chippenham Without Parish Council agreed that in principle this was sensible, bearing in mind the property was within the Allington Conservation Area and from a visual point of view looked as though it was part of their Parish. Before proceeding with the request they considered that the views of Kington St Michael Parish should be sought to ensure that they are supportive of the request prior to any agreement and submission of a formal request to Wiltshire Council. **(see attached) (For Decision)**
- g) Chippenham Town Council Neighbourhood Plan. The Chippenham Town Council has commenced work on the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan and sought to engage at an early stage with surrounding Parishes. Council Members had indicated that they would wish to be represented at any Meeting/s arranged. Confirmation has been received that a Meeting is scheduled for 6.30pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in The Town Hall, Chippenham. To agree representation to a maximum of 3 Council Members. **(For Decision)**
- h) Wiltshire Council Operational Flood Working Group North. To note that a meeting of the Group took place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and that the next Meeting takes place on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Trowbridge Rugby Club. **(to note)**
- i) Wiltshire Council-Councillors Briefing Note 296. Future of Children's Centre Services. To note receipt of Briefing Note **(see attached) (to note)**
- j) Wiltshire Council Parish Steward Presentation Evening. To note that the presentation evening took place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at Monkton Park, Chippenham and to receive any updates from attendees. **(to note)**
- k) Parish Council Vacancies. To note that three Vacancies exist, that the Council can co-opt eligible applicants and to consider advertising the Vacancies. **(For Decision)**

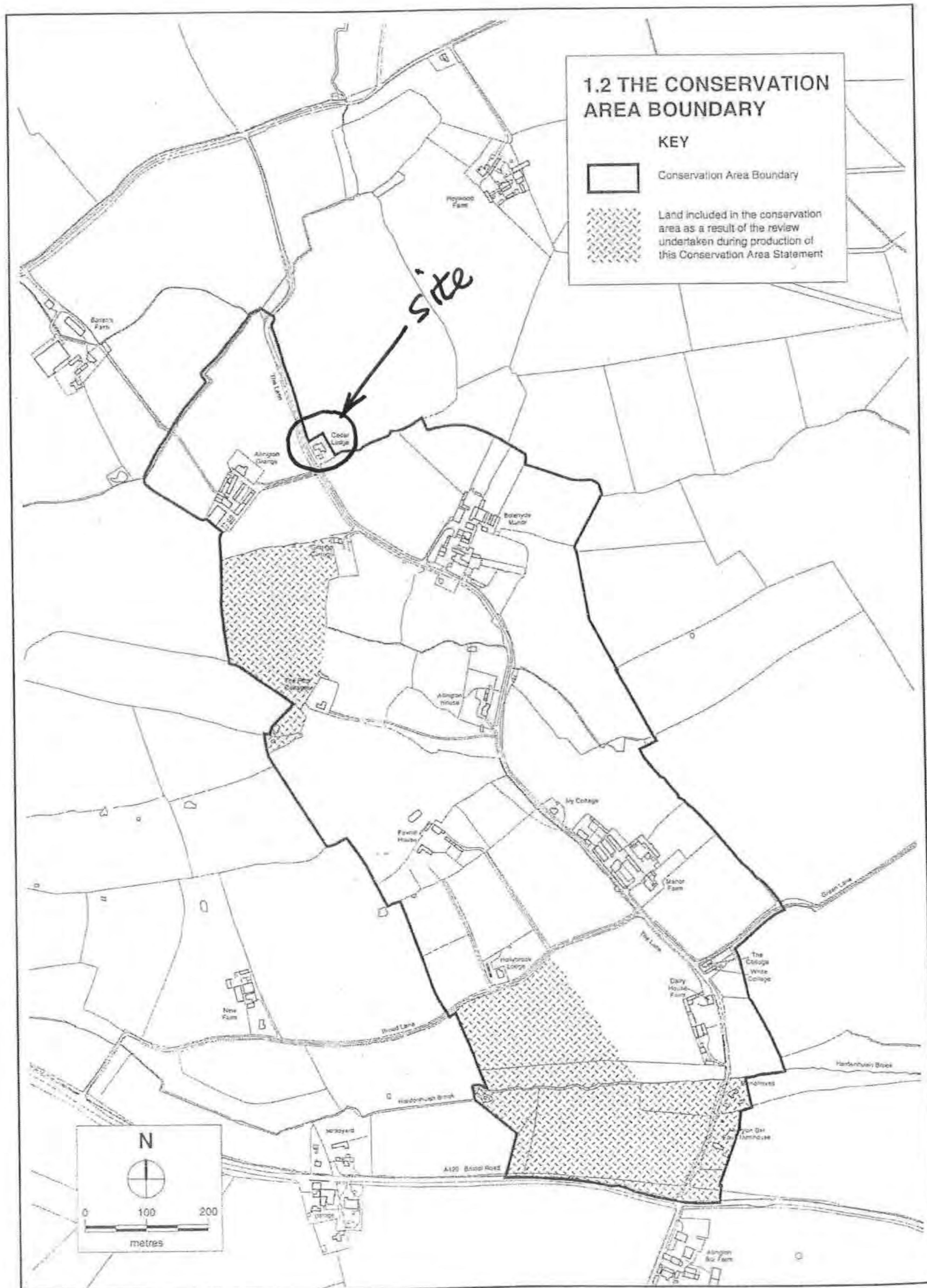
**10. COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING:**

An opportunity to raise items and issues which cannot be dealt with by the Clerk and which do not require a policy decision other than referral to the next meeting.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** The date of the next **Council Meeting** is scheduled for **7.45pm, Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016** in Kington St Michael Village Hall.

# Chippenham Without Parish Council Boundary

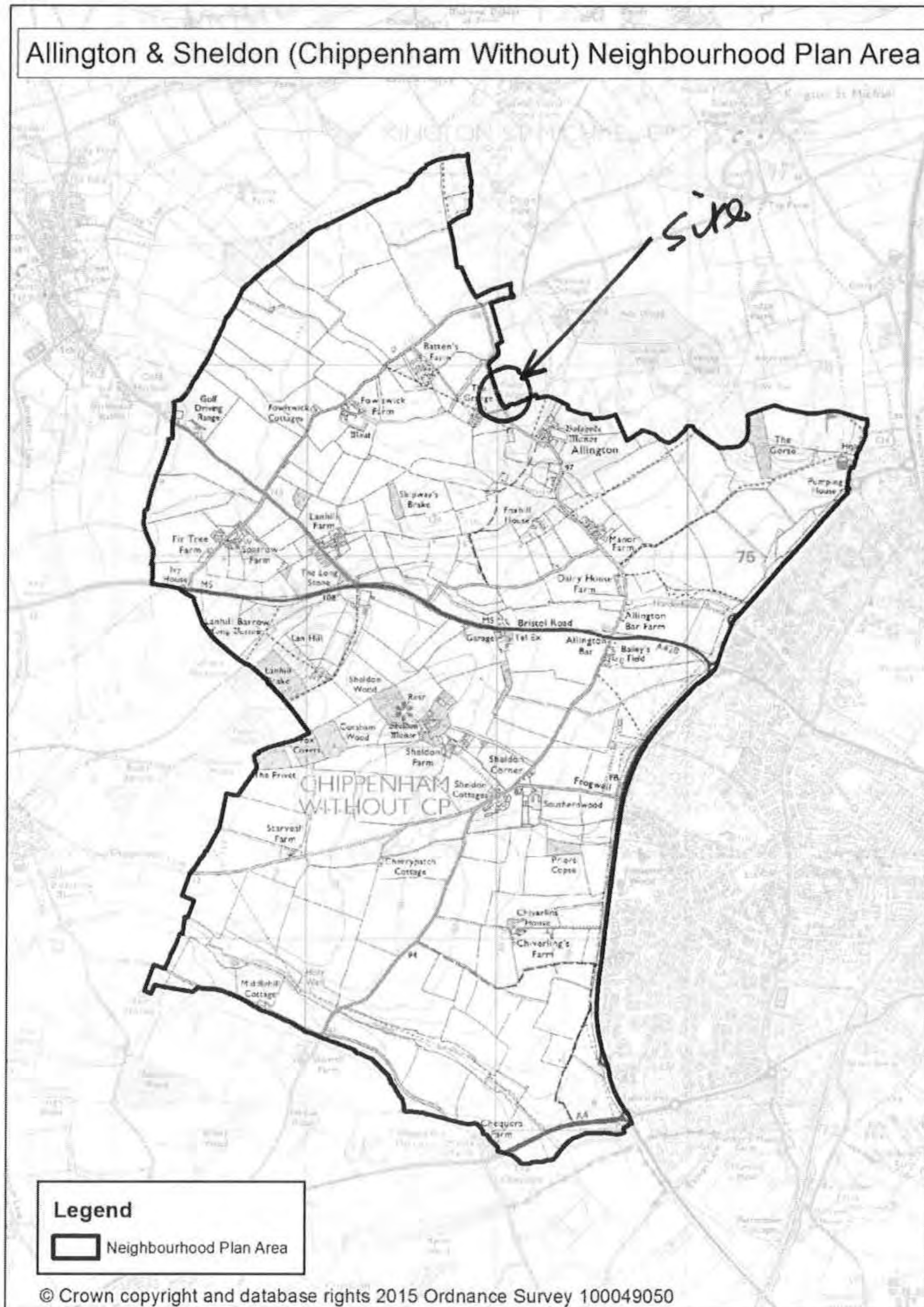




The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

## Application for Designation of the Allington & Sheldon (Chippenham Without Parish) Neighbourhood Area

We have received an application for the designation of Allington & Sheldon (Chippenham Without Parish) as a neighbourhood area from Chippenham Without Parish Council.



*Proposed Allington & Sheldon (Chippenham Without) Neighbourhood Area*

# CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

www.chippenhamwithoutparishcouncil.gov.uk

Vivian A Vines MBE  
Clerk of the Council

[REDACTED]

17 June 2016

Mr J Watling  
Wiltshire Council  
Monkton Park  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire  
SN15 1ER

Dear John

## GOVERNANCE/BOUNDARY REVIEW – CEDAR LODGE, ALLINGTON, NR CHIPPENHAM, WILTSHIRE SN14 6LW

The Council received a request on the 21 April 2016, from [REDACTED] to support a transfer of his property from Kington St Michael Parish to Chippenham Without Parish.

From both an appearance and physical situation it appears to all to be in Allington Lane and within Allington and no member of the public would be aware that it was not, except perhaps people concerned in Public life who go door knocking for votes. Interestingly last evening Members of Kington St Michael Parish Council commented that it was a nuisance to have to go out of their way at Election times to visit.

Cedar Lodge is within the Allington Conservation Area and also the Designated Allington & Sheldon Neighbourhood Area.

The Chippenham Without Parish Council, at their meeting held on the 25 May 2016, formally considered the request and supported [REDACTED]. The minute is below:

- a) Chippenham Without Parish Boundary. The Council had received a request from [REDACTED], Cedar Lodge, Allington SN14 6LW to support a boundary change that transferred Cedar Lodge from Kington St Michael Parish to Chippenham Without Parish. **The Council agreed with this in principle** and there would now be a need to ask Kington St Michael Parish if they were supportive of the request prior to agreeing and submitting a formal request to Wiltshire Council. The Clerk would contact Kington St Michael Parish.

Being Clerk of both Parish Councils has made things easy for me and, as I say above, last evening Kington St Michael Parish Council met and confirmed that they had no objections to the transfer. The minute is below:

- b) Chippenham Without Parish Boundary. The Chippenham Without Parish Council had received a request from [REDACTED], Cedar Lodge, Allington SN14 6LW to support a boundary change that transferred Cedar Lodge from Kington St Michael Parish to Chippenham Without Parish. The Chippenham Without Parish Council had agreed that in principle this was sensible, bearing in mind the

property was within the Allington Conservation Area and from a visual point of view looked as though it was part of their Parish. Before proceeding with further with the request they considered that the views of Kington St Michael Parish should be sought to ensure that they were supportive of the request prior to submission of a formal request to Wiltshire Council. **The Council had no objections** to the proposal and asked the Clerk to inform Chippenham Without Parish Council of these views

For information I attach a copy of [REDACTED] and of plans that identify the site of Cedar Lodge.

From an OF1 – Kington St Michael Electoral Roll point of view [REDACTED] appear as Electors 1 and 2 under the Allington SN14 6LW street name.

The question now is how do we proceed from here?

Yours sincerely

Clerk of Chippenham Without Parish Council

Enc

## Community Governance Review Request Form

**Name of Town/City/Parish:** Woodborough Parish Council

**Governance change requested:**

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish**
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

**Details of requested change(s):**

To review the boundary between this parish and the neighbouring parish of Manningford.

**Reason for requested change(s):**

The Garden Centre and houses known as Nursery Barns are currently within Manningford parish despite being geographically much closer to the village of Woodborough. The Garden Centre is commonly referred to as being in Woodborough.

**Date of council resolution(s):** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019

**Detail of council resolution(s):** Extract from the minutes for the meeting of the parish council held on 12<sup>th</sup> September, item 9, pages 665-666

**9. Review of Governance Arrangements**

*Cllr Brewin proposed that an expression of interest be submitted to Wiltshire Council to investigate the possibility of transferring the Garden Centre and Nursery Barns from Manningford Parish to Woodborough Parish. Seconded by Cllr Hayes and all in favour. Clerk to arrange a joint letter from the parish councils to the relevant properties advising them of the submission and asking for opinions.*

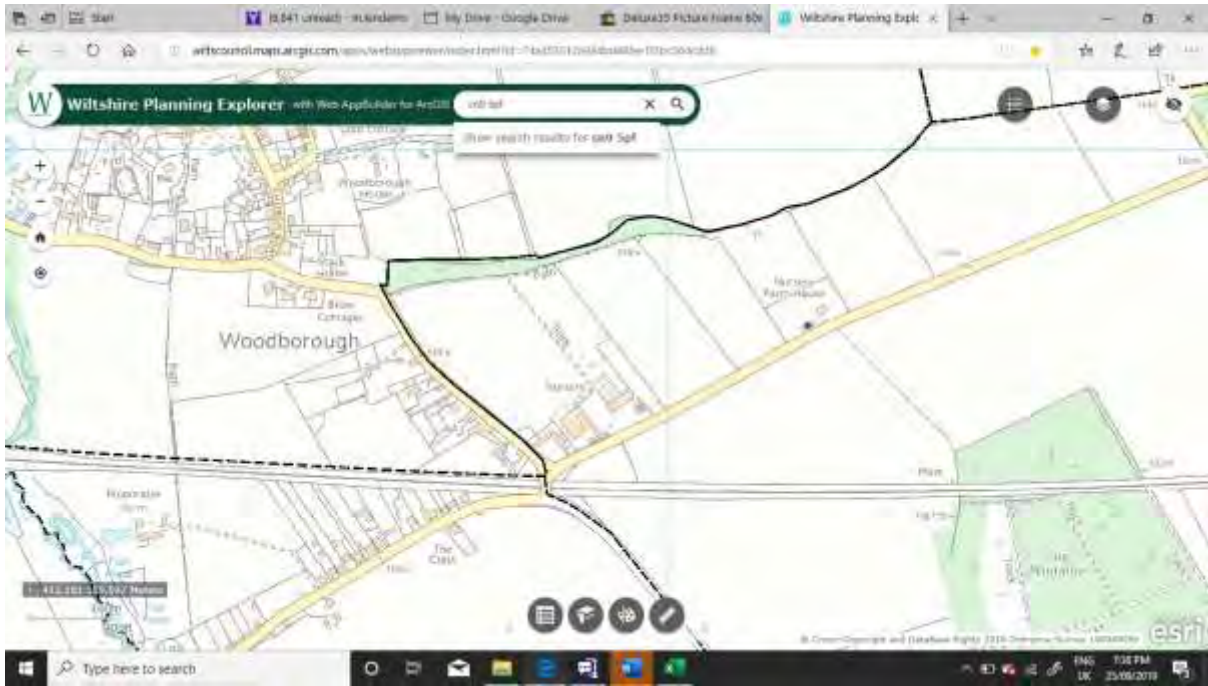
**Proposer signature:** Ruth Kinderman

**Proposer position:** Clerk, Woodborough Parish Council

**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**

See below for picture of existing boundary. Exactly where this could be redrawn would be up for discussion.





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## Community Governance Review Request Form

**Name of Town/City/Parish:** Manningford Parish Council

**Governance change requested:**

*(Tick all that apply)*

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for parish
- Change external boundaries of parish**
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of parishes
- Change name of parish
- Other change

**Details of requested change(s):**

1. To review the boundary between this parish and the neighbouring parish of Woodborough.
2. To review the boundary between this parish and that of the neighbouring parish of Pewsey where they meet at Sharcott.

**Reason for requested change(s):**

1. The Garden Centre and houses known as Nursery Barns are currently within Manningford parish despite being geographically much closer to the village of Woodborough. The Garden Centre is commonly referred to as being in Woodborough.
2. To understand the existing division of Sharcott and to consider whether the residents' needs would be better served by all belonging to the same parish.

**Date of council resolution(s):** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

**Detail of council resolution(s):** Extract from the minutes of the meeting of the parish council on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, item 8, pages 59-60

**8. Review of electoral arrangements and parish governance**

*It was agreed that this parish council has no objection to the Garden Centre and Nursery Barns being transferred to Woodborough if the residents and Woodborough parish council wish that to happen.*

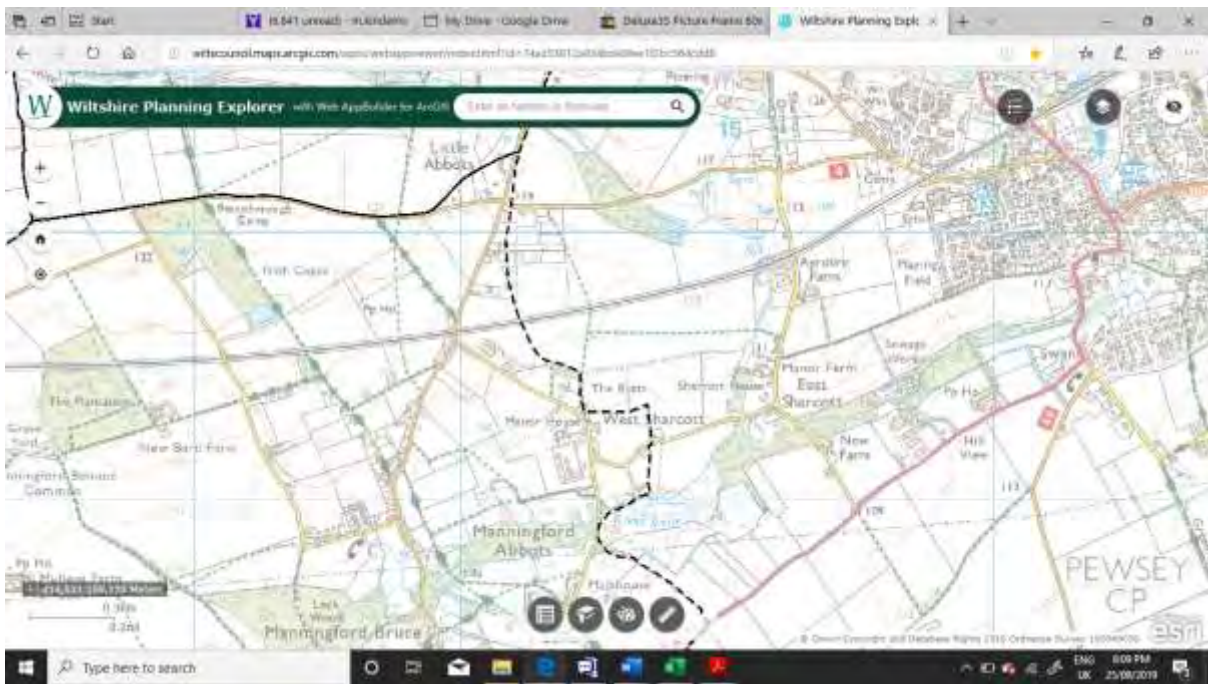
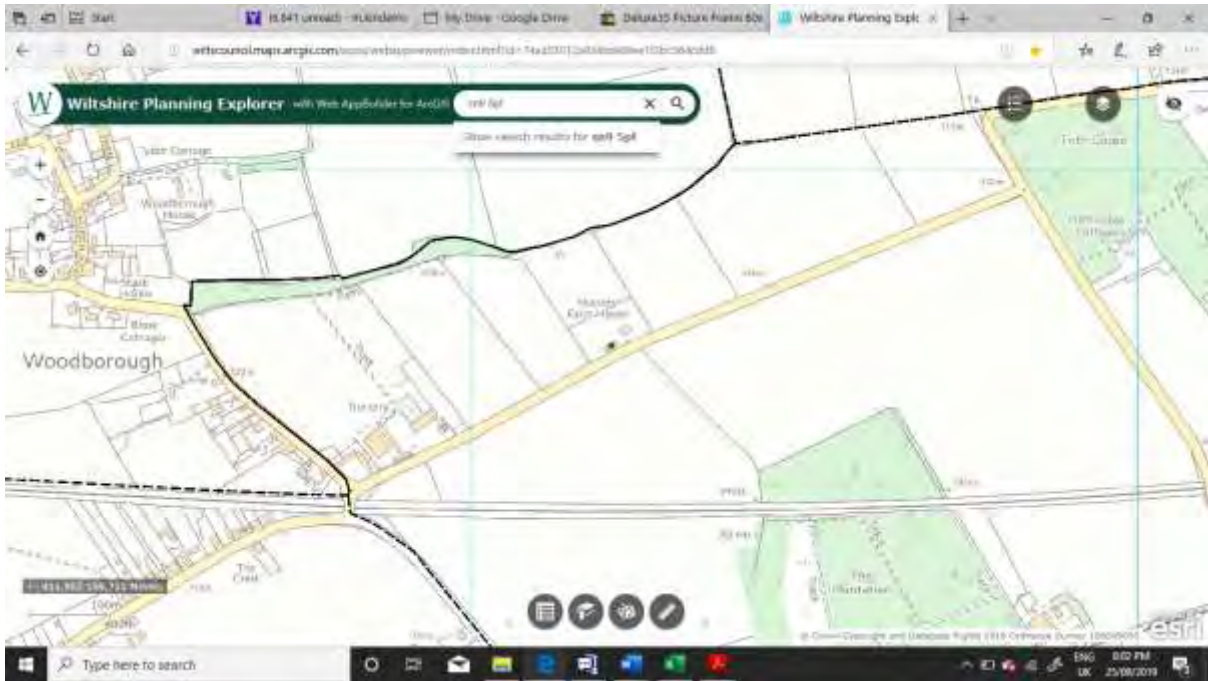
*Clerk will enquire whether Pewsey Parish Council is happy with the existing boundary division in Sharcott.*

**Proposer signature:** Ruth Kinderman

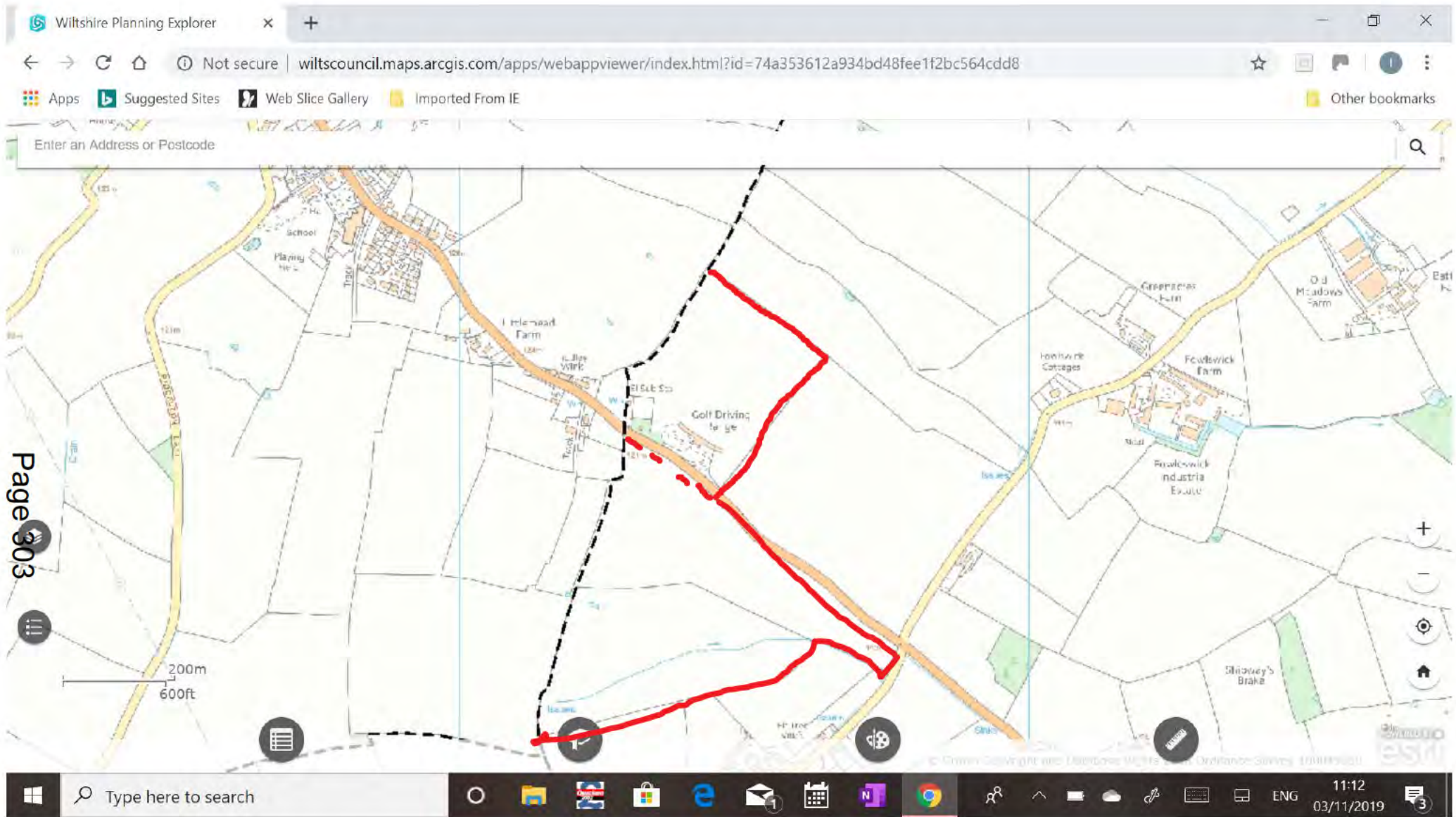
**Proposer position:** Clerk, Manningford Parish Council

**Insert map of proposed change (if applicable):**

Please see below for the two relevant map extracts showing the existing boundaries which could be reviewed.







Yatton Keynell with Chippenham Without to move The Barn, Substation & Golf Academy on the B4039 which form the entry to Tiddleywink & Yatton Keynell to Yatton Keynell Parish from Chippenham Without.

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## Community Governance Review Request Form

Name of Town/City/Parish: *SEEND PARISH COUNCIL*

Governance change requested:

(Tick all that apply)

- Change name of parish/parish wards
- Change number of councillors for parish
- Change number/shape of wards for
- Change external boundaries of parish
- Creation/merger/abolition/grouping of
- Change name of parish
- Other change

Details of requested change(s):

*Parish Council seats to be reduced from 11 in number to 9.*

Reason for requested change(s)(In particular Effective and Convenient Local Governance/Community Interests and Identity):

*For democracy to flourish the election of Councillors should be contested. There are far too many Parish Councillors in Seend who are co-opted. Contested elections have not been held in recent years which should be remedied.*

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Assessment as at September 2018 (using 2017 base date position)

Assessment as at March 2020 (using 2018 base date position)

			2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2017-21 total housing	2017-21 estimated electors (1.72 per dwelling)	2017-24 total housing	2017-24 estimated electors (1.72 per dwelling)		2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2017-21 total housing	2017-21 estimated electors (1.72 per dwelling)	2017-24 total housing	2017-24 estimated electors (1.72 per dwelling)
Scheme	Scheme description																								
1	Netherhampton		0	0	0	0	40	120	120	0	0	280	482		0	0	0	0	10	80	100	0	0	190	327
2	Langley Burrell Without 1 Scheme 42		0	34	100	100	100	100	100	234	402	534	918		0	50	100	100	100	100	100	250	430	550	946
3	Langley Burrell Without 2 Scheme 43		0	0	0	50	100	100	100	50	86	350	602		0	0	0	0	20	50	100	0	0	170	292
4	Lacock Scheme 44		0	0	95	163	179	140	100	258	444	677	1164		0	0	0	86	160	160	151	86	148	557	958
5	Melksham Without 1 Scheme 9		0	0	80	80	80	80	80	160	275	400	688		0	0	30	80	80	80	80	110	189	350	602
6	Melksham Without 1 Scheme 10		33	33	34	0	0	0	0	100	172	100	172		6	34	30	30	0	0	0	100	172	100	172
7	North Bradley 1		0	0	0	0	70	150	135	0	0	355	611		0	0	0	0	90	110	95	0	0	295	507
8	North Bradley 2		0	0	0	100	250	250	250	100	172	850	1462		0	0	0	0	100	250	250	0	0	600	1032
13	Trowbridge 1		0	0	0	10	35	60	50	10	17	155	267		0	0	0	100	100	100	55	100	172	355	611
14	Trowbridge 2									0	0	0	0		0							0	0	0	0
15	Trowbridge 3									0	0	0	0		0							0	0	0	0
16	Trowbridge 4		0	0	0	0	20	50	50	0	0	120	206		0	0	0	0	35	50	50	0	0	135	232
17	Trowbridge 5									0	0	0	0		0							0	0	0	0
24	Melksham Merger		0	10	80	80	80	60	40	170	292	350	602		0	0	50	80	80	80	40	130	224	330	568
37	Southwick		0	0	0	19	44	12	8	19	33	83	143		0	0	0	11	57	17	5	11	19	90	155
																						0			
H2.11	Land adjacent The Street, Hullavington		0	0	15	20	15	0	0	35	60	50	86		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H2.7	Land East of The Dene, Warminster		0	0	0	0	30	70	0	0	0	100	172		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CH1	Showell Nurseries														0	0	0	0	40	40	40	0	0	120	206

	Scheme	Scheme description	Notes
	1	Netherhampton	South of Netherhampton Road
	2	Langley Burrell Without 1 Scheme 42	These trajectories represent the full complement of housing from the North Chippenham site. In the LGBCE review this site was sub-divided between two different electoral divisions.
Page 307	3	Langley Burrell Without 2 Scheme 43	Rawlings Green
	4	Lacock Scheme 44	These trajectories represent the full complement of housing from the South West Chippenham site. In the LGBCE review this site was sub-divided between three different electoral divisions.
	5	Melksham Without 1 Scheme 9	Land east of Spa Road
	6	Melksham Without 1 Scheme 10	Land north of Sandridge Common
	7	North Bradley 1	Elm Grove Farm and White Horse Business Park
	8	North Bradley 2	South East Trowbridge
	13	Trowbridge 1	Elizabeth Way
	14	Trowbridge 2	Accommodated in Scheme 8
	15	Trowbridge 3	Accommodated in Scheme 7
	16	Trowbridge 4	
	17	Trowbridge 5	Accommodated in Scheme 16
	24	Melksham Merger	Land east of Semington Road and Land south of Western Way. Schemes 5 and 6 accommodate other development sites in Melksham Without
	37	Southwick	Land adjacent to Church Lane and Land at Upper Studley

H2.11	Land adjacent The Street, Hullavington	
H2.7	Land East of The Dene, Warminster	

CH1	Showell Nurseries	Showell Nurseries (120 dwellings)
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# Agenda Item 4

	<b>Date received</b>	<b>Sender</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Summary</b>
1	03/11/19	Parish Councillor	Southwick	Ppotential Roman road and settlement at Southwick Court
2	12/11/19	Resident	Trowbridge	Support for Trowbridge expanding into open land from a town identity perspective and to preserve the setting of surrounding villages
3	19/11/19	Resident	Melksham Without	Feels that Bowerhill has a very separate identity to the town and opposes a potential merger between Melksham and Melksham Without
4	23/11/19	Bowerhill Residents Action Group	Melksham Without	Scheme 11 - support for the proposal as the canal is an obvious physical boundary between the two villages and the picnic area, currently in Seend, is used and maintained almost intirely by Bowerhill residents Scheme 24 - strong objection to the merger as the two councils represent two very distinct areas and have very different community interests Feels that Bowerhill has a very separate identity to the town and opposes a potential merger between Melksham and Melksham Without
5	25/11/19	Resident	Melksham Without	Supports a one Melksham Council as it would have a better understanding of whole community matters and provide a stronger voice in Wiltshire Council
6	25/11/19	Resident	Melksham	Feels that Melksham Without and Melksham have very separate identities opposes a potential merger
7	25/11/19	Resident	Melksham Without	Feels that Bowerhill has a very separate identity to the town and opposes a potential merger between Melksham and Melksham Without
8	27/11/19	Resident	Melksham Without	Supports creation of a One Town Melksham to include Berryfields, Bowerhill, Pathfinder Way, Hunters Wood and 100 houses north of Sandridge Common and a One Parish Council to cover Shaw, Whitely, Beanacre and Blackmore Ward
9	26/11/19	Resident	Melksham	Scheme 40 - supports the creation of a new parish council as it would reflect the identity and interests of the community, ensure the effective and convenient governance of that area and has a large public backing
10	26/11/19	Lead Petitioner	Derry Hill and Studley	Supports a merger between Melksham and Melksham Without as the new housing development will benefit from Melksham facilities and does not consider Bowerhill a separate village. However, does think Shaw and Whitley have a case for being outside Melksham town
11	27/11/19	Resident	Melksham	Supports a merger between Melksham and Melksham Without as there is already some confusion over their boundaries, their responsibilities and their budgets. One council would offer a stronger identity, greater clarity and more authority in Wiltshire Council
12	29/11/19	Resident	Melksham	Scheme 24 - opposes on the basis that it will dilute the community identity and cohesion of the villages as supported by the Core Strategy and the concern that resources in a merged council will be spread too thinly to address diverse community needs
13	29/11/19	CAWS Chair & Shaw Village Hall Committee Vice Chair	Melksham	Scheme 24 - feels that Bowerhill has a very separate identity to the town and opposes a potential merger between Melksham and Melksham Without and that Melksham Without has always been effective in serving its community
14	29/11/19	Resident	Melksham Without	Supports a merger between Melksham and Melksham Without as it will save money, provide continuity, become more efficient and become a stronger body with one voice
15	30/11/19	Resident	Melksham	Supports merging Bowerhill, Berryfield and East of Melksham into the current Melksham boundaries, creating a new separate parish including Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley and transferring all BRAG land from Seend to Melksham
16	30/11/19	Resident	Melksham	Supports a merger between Melksham and Melksham Without as it will ensure equal democratic input and influence, financial efficiency, pooled resources, skills, knowledge and expertise and will provide clarity over boundaries
17	30/11/19	Resident	Melksham	Opposes a the boundary change between Melksham and Seend as it sets a dangerous precedent, would hold up the Neighbourhood Plan and would not provide any clear or demonstrable benefits
18	09/12/19	Resident	Melksham Without	Opposes a the boundary change between Melksham and Seend due to the ongoing nature of the Neighbourhood Plan, the importance of the wood area to Seend and the lack of any clear or demonstrable benefits
19	10/12/19	Resident	Seend	Provides a more detailed argument following a previous submission supporting merging Bowerhill, Berryfield and East of Melksham into the current Melksham boundaries, creating a new separate parish including Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley and transferring all BRAG land from Seend to Melksham
20	29/11/19	Resident (as 16)	Melksham	

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## Elliott, Kieran

---

**From:** John Eaton [REDACTED]@com>  
**Sent:** 03 November 2019 17:29  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Southwick Court/CGR

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Hello Kieran,

I have been made aware of a potential roman road and roman settlement at Southwick Court.

Please see photographic copies of aerial photograph, maps and drawings attached.

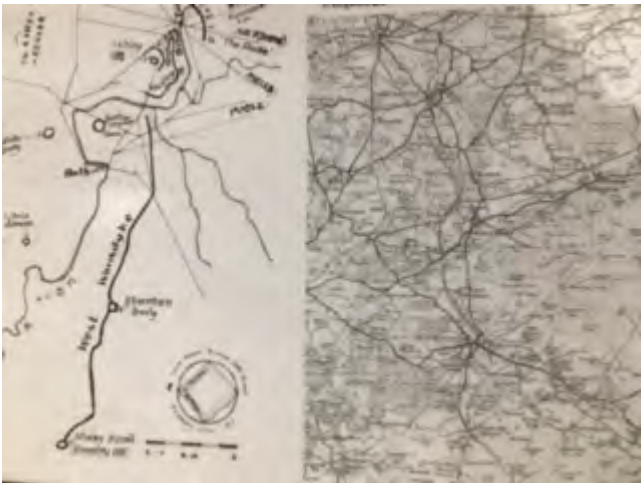
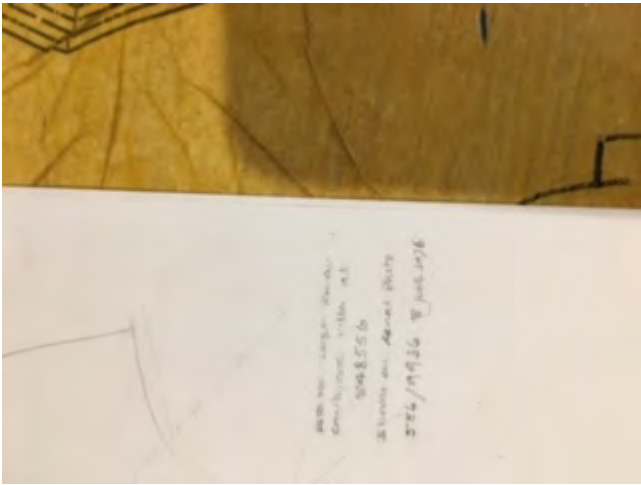
The presence of a former roman road and settlement on this site may have a bearing on the CGR request made by Trowbridge Town Council.

It may also have a bearing on the proposed development of 180 new homes near to where the roman settlement is located.

Grateful if you could share the attached materials with relevant interested parties within WC.

Many thanks in anticipation.  
John Eaton





Sent from my iPhone



## **Community Governance Review**

On behalf of Bowerhill Residents Action Group I would like to make some comments on two of the schemes under review.

### **Scheme 11 - Boundary between Melksham Without and Seend**

**To move the existing boundary from Seend Parish Council to Melksham Without Parish Council encompassing BRAG (Bowerhill Residents Action Group) canal side picnic area.**

BRAG supports this proposal as the canal is an obvious physical boundary between the two villages and if you asked a layman from either village as to where the boundary is, they would probably say it is the canal. The existing boundary is very close to the houses at Bowerhill and is a historical boundary from before many of the houses were built. I have an old map that shows that boundary and on the Bowerhill side there is only the hangers and a few houses from when the site was used by the RAF during and after the 2<sup>nd</sup> world war. The boundary weaves around the farms using hedges (and sites of) and tracks as the physical boundary. Using the canal as the boundary would put the boundary roughly mid-way between the edges of the current houses of Bowerhill and those of Seend Cleeve, and the canal is a strong, clearly defined boundary tied to firm ground features.

As Melksham Without Parish Council has identified their proposed change would not affect any residences.

As far as the Bowerhill picnic area is concerned which is technically in the parish of Seend, it is used almost exclusively by residents of Bowerhill and users of the canal. BRAG last year put in 586 man-hours maintaining the picnic area and the route to the picnic area (footpath, hedge and ditch) to make it an attractive venue and also to repair the damage caused by vandals. BRAG was able to achieve a Level 5 Outstanding award in the RHS South West in Bloom It's Your Neighbourhood category for the 6<sup>th</sup> year running for the picnic area. As well as maintaining the picnic area, BRAG has fund raised and asked local businesses to provide the picnic tables, benches, trees, shrubs and flowers that make the area so popular with local residents and passers-by. Melksham Without Parish Council is very supportive of the picnic area. They have adopted the picnic tables, benches and notice boards and put them on their insurance. They arrange for the Parish caretaker to empty the large bin weekly and give BRAG a grant to cover their insurance and some projects that include the picnic area.

BRAG has tried to get protection for the picnic area and have it designated a "Local Green Space" but we cannot get it included in the Melksham Neighbourhood Plan as the area is within the Seend boundary and we are not getting much support from the people of Seend. We are however getting lots of support from Bowerhill residents and Melksham Without Parish Council. Following on from the Boundary Commission Review with Seend being grouped with Devizes then to have the picnic area under the jurisdiction of Devizes makes it seem very much out on a limb and away from any protection.

In conclusion, Bowerhill Residents Action Group would like you to consider and agree Melksham Without Parish Council's submission that the boundary with Seend is moved to the canal.

### **Scheme 24 Melksham Merger**

Bowerhill Residents Action Group (BRAG) members are very against the merger between Melksham Town Council (MTC) and Melksham Without Parish Council (MWPC). The two councils represent two

completely different areas, one is urban the other rural and they have different community interest. Some of the points that came out when this topic was discussed at our meeting –

- A merger was proposed a few years ago and the result in December 2016 was that it was not wanted. Nothing has materially changed to alter this position.
- Nick Holder, the new Melksham Without South councillor spoke to many people when he was electioneering and explained why he was backing a no to the merger. The other candidate was for the merger. Nick Holder was elected.
- If the merger happened and Option B of MTC's plan were approved, it would be very difficult for the combined small villages of Shaw and Whitley to run an effective council. Currently they have an effective community group that is supported by MWPC.
- The MWPC area comprises of a number of villages and rural areas that are very distinct from the town. There are also a number of community groups, such as BRAG, representing villages and rural areas that look after their community and find out what problems there are and what needs to be done. As well as working independently for their areas, the groups liaise and work with MWPC to see how issues can be solved and plans put into fruition. It works well and MWPC has been very supportive to those groups over the years. They give the community groups grants and advise them of other sources of grants. There is constant liaison such as about where to put benches and bins, consultations about play areas and play equipment, public art contributions and even help with litter picking and tree planting.
- MWPC has a good track record of looking after the residents in a rural area and understands the needs of the rural community that is so different from those of an urban community.
- There is a Parish Steward who does jobs around the area and the community groups are asked if they know of any work to be done. Do people in urban areas know who to contact if a tree overhanging a pavement or undergrowth by a path needs cutting back?
- As far as Bowerhill is concerned, with the housing development on the town side eroding the buffer between the town and the village, the residents are raising the profile that Bowerhill is and has always been a village. There is a road sign advising drivers that they are entering Bowerhill and now plans are in place to erect a village entrance. We do not understand how Mayor Jon Hubbard could say "that no one can really say that Bowerhill is not part of the town".
- BRAG understands that boundaries need to change to reflect current situations and agrees that new houses being built to the east of Melksham on land under the jurisdiction of MWPC be moved to MTC as the residents would be better served being within MTC within their urban area.
- Residents are concerned that if the merger went through each councillor would have to represent many more people. They are also concerned that the precept would rise and there would be more to pay on their council tax, with most of the money being earmarked for town projects. MWPC residents use the town for shopping and use some of the facilities but not normally on a regular basis. They like having the Melksham town nearby but want to keep their rural identity.

Pauline Helps, Secretary, Bowerhill Residents Action Group



26<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Kieran,

**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2019 – A SEPARATE PARISH FOR DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY – SCHEME 40**

Thank you for your invitation to provide additional information further to my letter of 24th September and petition seeking a separate parish council for Derry Hill and Studley. I would like to focus on the key criteria to support a separate parish council and to update members of the Electoral Review Committee about a number of developments since my earlier letter. In particular the outcome of the extraordinary meeting of Calne Without Parish Council that discussed its response to various proposals affecting the parish boundary including the petition for a separate council. The petition has also now been signed by a further 91 residents

Unfortunately, due to my ageing iPad I am unable to complete your digital form. Please accept my apologies and hopefully you will be able to transfer the comments below to the standard form for the benefit of your members and the public.

Addressing the headings of the form:

**1. COMMUNITY IDENTITY AND INTERESTS**

1.1 Community Governance Reviews are required to reflect the identity and interests of the local community, and the effective and convenient governance of that area. It must also give consideration to the impact on the community and the size, population and boundaries of the proposed area.

1.2. The guidance and relevant Act also stress a commitment to parish councils and their role in community empowerment. It is very clear that parishes should reflect distinctive and recognisable communities of interest with their own sense of identity and that the feelings of the local community and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary consideration.

1.3. The proposed separate parish for Derry Hill and Studley meets all the key criteria as well as providing a parish which is of a size which is more than viable as an administrative unit of local government.

1.4. Addressing specifics. The proposed parish comprising the existing Pewsham and West Wards of the current Calne Without Parish Council is a clearly identifiable community encompassing the adjacent villages of Derry Hill and Studley as well as the neighbouring hamlet of Old Derry Hill and their environs. There are recognisable and well-established boundaries to the proposed parish that follow existing parish and divisional boundaries. Derry Hill and Studley is already identified in the Wiltshire Council Settlement Strategy as a 'large village' and therefore to a degree Wiltshire Council has already recognised it as a distinct and identifiable community

1.5. This designation as a 'large village' recognises the high degree of housing growth that has taken place in the last 40 years which has enhanced the district character and nature of a community. It has a clear identity that is served by three churches, a primary school, post office, a thriving village hall and three pubs. Residents have a clear affinity to the area with a network of local groups and clubs operating within Derry Hill and Studley including the Women's Institute, an art club, badminton club, wood working group, a pre-school play and learning group, Scouting, Mothers Union and a senior citizens lunch club.

1.6. No such links exist with the other parts of Calne Without which is a collection of distant and disparate villages that have no recognisable links with Derry Hill and Studley. The villages on the eastern side of Calne are divided from Derry Hill and Studley by the town of Calne itself. These villages have closer links to the neighbouring parish of Cherhill where their school, their church and their local pub is located. Similarly, with Stockley and Mile Elm, they have even stronger links with the neighbouring parish of Heddington where again their school, church and local pub are. None of these areas have recognisable links with Derry Hill and Studley

1.7 Calne Without is far too big to be a cohesive parish council, stretching over 8 miles from almost the edge of Chippenham to the Cherhill Monument in the east. Parishes should be 'local' and based on a community that residents identify with - very few people can identify with Calne Without.

1.8. The petition of 673 signatures, submitted in late September, demonstrates the strength of feeling within the community for a separate parish council for Derry Hill and Studley. Since the original petition seeking a Community Governance Review was submitted two months ago, more residents have signed the petition to support a separate parish council. As at Monday 25th November a further 97 residents have been canvassed; 91 of which have signed in support, only 6 have declined.

1.9. Based on the 2017 electorate of 1219 adult residents, 65.4% of voters have been canvassed with 62.6% of the total electorate in support and only 2.8% declining to sign for a variety of reasons. An overwhelming majority which represents support from around 95% of voters canvassed.

1.10. The response to the petition from each of the two wards (West & Pewsham) that are proposed to make up the new council is set out below:

	Electorate	Voters Canvassed	In Support	Declined to sign
WEST Ward	1008	628	601	27
PEWSHAM Ward	211	169	162	7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1219</b>	<b>797</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>34</b>

The table shows that support for the creation of a separate parish is broadly based and not influenced in any significant way by the location of residents within the community. Indeed, despite the claim at the extraordinary parish council meeting that the Pewsham Ward had not been consulted widely, over 75% of the Pewsham electorate have signed the petition.

## **2. EFFECTIVE & CONVENIENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

2.1. Focusing a separate parish council around Derry Hill and Studley will enhance the effectiveness and convenience of the delivery of this first tier of local government. As already outlined above, Wiltshire Council has designated Derry Hill & Studley as a 'large village' thus recognising its distinctive nature from other communities within the existing parish of Calne Without.

2.2. As a 'large village' Derry Hill & Studley has separate and distinct requirements from the small and widely dispersed communities that comprise the remainder of Calne Without. Creating a council drawn solely from this community will enable it to focus on the delivery of services and support to the community of Derry Hill, Studley and its environs.

2.3. The Wiltshire strategy of seeking to disaggregate and minimise certain services to the absolute legal minimum have already seen calls from within the community to address issues such as the appearance and attractiveness of the area as well as pursuing local transport, road safety and environmental issues. To have a fully accountable council focussed on and familiar with local issues and able to address these in an effective and efficient manner from within the community would represent a significant benefit.

2.4. Appropriate elected and accountable representation is a key factor in delivering effective and convenient local government. Within Calne Without the only ward where a competitive election took place in 2017 and again in 2018 was the West Ward which largely comprises the villages of Derry Hill &

Studley. This clearly demonstrates the appetite for community representation and involvement. This has been reinforced during canvassing of voter's opinions on a separate parish council with a number of residents expressing interest in standing as candidates in future elections for a separate Derry Hill & Studley parish council. Pewsham Ward, the other proposed component of a Derry Hill & Studley council, currently has two councillors who stood unopposed in the 2017 elections but again there have been expressions of interest in standing for a separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley.

2.5. A separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley is fully sustainable. Based on 2017 voter numbers the proposals Parish with 1219 voters would be amongst the largest 30% of the 235 parishes in Wiltshire. The new parish would be the largest in terms of voters in the Calne area. Wiltshire Council project that the number of voters is expected to rise to 1316 by 2024. Should Derry Hill & Studley become a separate council the remaining parts of Calne Without would certainly be sustainable as a parish council, as it would have only marginally less voters than Derry Hill & Studley and considerably more than other parishes in the Calne area.

2.6. In seeking a separate parish council, the aim is not to be isolationist, it is about securing better and effective representation for a district and cohesive community. Furthermore, it represents an opportunity to build closer relationships with adjacent councils including the successor to Calne Without. A separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley would look to establish close relationships with Calne and Chippenham Town Councils where we might benefit from economies of scale in participating in shared services to support the community. Similarly, a new parish council may wish to join with smaller parishes to share services more specific to the rural and semi-rural environment.

### **3. OTHER ISSUES**

3.1. The Committee will be aware that Calne Without Parish Council held an extraordinary meeting to debate its response to the petition to create a separate parish council as well as other proposals by Calne Town Council. The meeting was relatively well attended considering it was held in Calne and hastily arranged. All members of the public to speak at the meeting spoke in favour of a separate parish. This included a Heddington parish councillor who spoke eloquently about the potential opportunities for the residual part of Calne Without should Derry Hill & Studley separate.

3.2. Following a presentation and some debate about the case for a separate parish council for Derry Hill & Studley the council considered the following motion:

#### Motion 1

*"That the parish council acknowledges the views expressed by the residents of Derry Hill & Studley and has no objection to the creation of a separate parish".*

The motion was lost by 7 votes to 4. However, a majority (4) of Pewsham and West Ward councillors supporting the motion with 3 local councillors opposing it.

3.3. A second motion (below) was then considered and approved by the same 7 votes to 4:

#### Motion 2

*"The residents of Derry Hill, Studley and Pewsham will not be better served by a separate parish council and it would be to the detriment of Calne Without Parish. The proposal is rejected. However, if Wiltshire Council is minded to accept the proposal, the Parish Council requests that Wiltshire Council considers how they would approve continuation of Calne Without Parish Council or split the parish to other councils".*

3.4. The majority of members representing the area proposed to become a separate council supported the petition's proposals but again views of the overwhelming majority of residents were ignored by councillors from other wards. This precisely demonstrates why residents are so keen to have a greater influence over their own community. The 7 members that represent the other parish wards based mainly

on Calston, Lower Compton and Stockley, have minimal connection with Derry Hill and Studley but wield power and control over decisions on our community's future. Only 4 of them were present (two of whom have never been elected) but it turned the 4 to 3 majority in favour of the petition amongst Pewsham and West Ward councillors, into a 7 to 4 majority to oppose the new parish council.

3.5. For councillors to ignore the wishes of such an overwhelming majority of residents there should be a very clear and compelling reason for doing so. The councillors speaking in opposition to a separate parish council were somewhat light on facts with nebulous arguments. However, two points were made. The first was that the more rural parts of Pewsham Ward had not been consulted. This is not the case as the petition shows. Since it was submitted in September many of the remaining 20 or so, of the most rural properties have been canvassed to ensure broad representation. The numbers in paragraph 1.10 clearly demonstrate very significant support across the whole community.

3.6. The second issue was that the rest of Calne Without had not been consulted. This is the case, but it should be remembered that the proposal is for a separate parish of Derry Hill & Studley. Canvassing amongst the wider parish would be akin to asking England, Wales and Northern Ireland to participate in an independence vote for Scotland. Or for the rest of Europe to vote on the continued presence of the UK in the EU.

3.7. The motion approved by Calne Without Parish Council gives no coherent reason for opposing a separate parish council but simply states that "the residents of Derry Hill and Studley would not be better served by a separate parish council and it would be to the detriment of Calne Without Parish". Frustratingly, no reason was given for reaching this conclusion.

3.8. Finally, in pursuing a separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley we have avoided being presumptuous about the choice that might be made for the remainder of Calne Without; we would undoubtedly be criticised for doing so. It was, however, disappointing that none of the members present at the extraordinary meeting considered what opportunities might present themselves from either continuing as Calne Without, minus Pewsham and West Wards, or seeking to amalgamate with neighbouring parishes with close links.

3.9. Cllr Bryant of Heddington Parish Council made some compelling arguments to examine the combining of Stockley and Mile Elm with Heddington Parish, Lower Compton and Calston with Cherhill Parish and the Ratford area into Bremhill Parish. Whilst Cllr Bryant was speaking as an individual and not representing her parish council her ideas do appear to have merit and some support. This may be something this committee may wish to examine should it be minded to support the wishes of the community and create a separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley. The second part of the motion carried by Calne Without Parish Council proposes such an approach.

I trust this additional information will assist the Committee in making its recommendations and inform our discussion scheduled for Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> 2019.

Yours sincerely,



MAP OF THE PROPOSED SEPARATE PARISH OF DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY



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Community Governance Review Response Form

Please select which Scheme you are responding to:

Scheme 24 - Melksham Merger

Please indicate the capacity in which you are responding:

A resident of the area affected by the proposal

Do you support or oppose this Scheme?

Oppose

Using the criteria required for Community Governance Reviews below, please indicate on what grounds you support or oppose this Scheme

Community Identity and Interests

As current Chair of Community Action: Whitley & Shaw (CAWS) and Vice Chair of Shaw Village Hall Committee I speak for the community in those two villages. We as two important local community groups, strongly oppose proposal Option A on the basis that it will dilute the community identity and cohesion of our villages which is supported by the core strategy. The needs of our 1000+ residents are quite different from those of Melksham Town residents and we have a fantastic working relationship with MWOPC who understand these needs from supporting the other outlying villages that surround Melksham. Our concern is that as part of a much larger local council our voices would be lost and our needs go unsatisfied compared to the more densely populated parts of the town especially to the East of Melksham Town. We also strongly oppose proposal Option B on the basis that Shaw & Whitley do identify with the other outlying villages of Beancare, Bowerhill and Berryfield under the umbrella of MWOPC. The villages would also find it near impossible to form a standalone Parish Council of it's own given that the local community groups and organisation

Effective and convenient local governance

As representative of the two organisations above I have grave concerns that the resources of a merged council will be spread too thinly to properly address the needs of such a diverse community of a densely populated town and rural communities surrounded by productive farmland. We also have grave concerns that residents will not have the same level of access to council resources that they currently enjoy as part of MWOPC. Similarly for the reasons stated above it is highly unlikely that the residents of Shaw & Whitley could form an effective Parish Council of it's own given the current levels of volunteers.

Submit

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# Community Governance Review

## Melksham Without Parish Council's Request for a Boundary Change Between Melksham and Seend

I write to register my strong objection to this proposed boundary change.

### **Background**

I am a parishioner in the Parish of Seend and until 2017 was a parish councilor and for the last eighteen months, Chair of the Parish Council. During my term on the Parish Council (PC) I walked the towpath and took photographs of the Bowerhill Residents Picnic Site. I reported on the development of the site to the Parish Council and especially when the site became flooded. As a PC we discussed the site on numerous occasions making it clear to BRAG that we were content for them to use that area but at no time was consent given or implied that the land would ever be ceded to them. We were asked for a financial contribution but in my recollection we only provided that once as a gesture of goodwill. Seend Parish's precept is much smaller than Melksham Without PC and we had many calls on our budget especially in relation to highway improvements through CATG, where we were required to make a financial contribution.

My recollection is that the PC recognized the work that volunteers undertook on the BRAG site that benefitted anyone using that section of the towpath BUT most of the work undertaken was not processed or agreed through Seend PC and therefore was not minuted so when we were asked to pay, for example for grass strimming after it had taken place, we were unable to even consider it because we would have been operating against our financial regulations.

BRAG seemed to operate initially outside of the control of Melksham Without Parish Council and only more recently has some semblance of control been exercised. Having said that BRAG has had to endure the ravages of flooding and vandalism and much voluntary work has taken place creating a small site that is enjoyed by Seend parishioners, Bowerhill residents and those using the canal and towpath. However the land belongs to Seend Parish and has been part of the Parish for many hundreds of years.

I believe that the PC's understanding was that the review that took place in 2017 addressed issues of boundaries across Wiltshire. I therefore find it puzzling why this issue has been raised again, so soon after a decision had been made that found in Seend's favour. Does Wiltshire Council envisage allowing this issue too be raised on a regular basis in the hope that a decision in favour of Melksham Without Parish Council is reached eventually?

## Key objections

1. There is an important principle at stake here, namely that Wiltshire Council should not be allowing neighbouring Parish Councils to try and acquire additional land by using an ad-hoc group as a Trojan-horse. A fundamental question that needs answering is that if this proposal was granted a dangerous precedent would be set for parishes to use more widely in Wiltshire.
2. Melksham Without Council has not advanced a compelling argument for the change and it has failed to address the other areas that it is seeking to encompass, against the clear wishes of Mrs Giles and the wishes of her late husband. The Giles family has invested considerable sums of money in improving the aesthetic and environmental quality of the area they own by creating Giles's wood.
3. Both Melksham and Seend's Neighbourhood Plans are well advanced and the review that was conducted in 2017 established defined areas for both communities and all of the work of the two Steering Groups has been based on the boundaries that were confirmed in 2017. As defining the boundary areas for a Neighbourhood Plan is the first step in the development of a draft plan, changing the boundaries at this late stage would delay seriously putting the plans out for consultation next year. A new statement would need to be prepared and the various references to the land in question will need to be removed and edited.
4. Retaining the BRAG site, Giles's Wood and the farm land in Seend Parish is not going to prevent anyone from continuing to enjoy the rural tranquility that these areas currently afford. It is not as though Seend will in any way deprive BRAG of continuing to make the site an enjoyable facility for all.
5. We all operate under Wiltshire's Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plans of Seend and Melksham will have to reflect the planning and requirements contained therein. I am sure that Seend PC and its parishioners want to play their part in the furtherance of the Core Strategy and at a local level our own Neighbourhood Plan when we hope it is adopted, next year. It is therefore unwise of Melksham Without Council to try to assert that Seend Parish is unwilling to take its share of housing or the associated network of roads and that these will only be achieved by the proposed boundary changes.
6. I reiterate that the proposed boundary changes are detrimental to the integrity of parish boundaries in this instance but also the potential ramifications within Wiltshire more widely. There are no clear and demonstrable benefits that will accrue from the changes such as governance and financial efficiency savings.
7. There will be no loss of access or enjoyment to Melksham Without Council, to BRAG or to any member of the public by the land remaining within Seend Parish.

I trust that these considerations will be helpful in undertaking the review.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Calne Without Parish Council  
Extraordinary Meeting Held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in an extraordinary meeting Calne Without Parish Council gave consideration to the Community Governance Review Requests made by Calne Town Council and proposal for a new Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council. The following are the resolutions made by Calne Without Parish Council in respect of those requests.

<b>Area of Land/ proposal</b>	<b>Resolution of Calne Without Parish Council</b>
To extend the Town boundary to the north to incorporate the Town Council's Beversbrook Sports Facility and Allotments	The Town Council hold a 125 Year lease and own and run the sports facilities therefore the Parish Council accepts the proposal for the area as shown to become part of Calne Town Council.
To extend the Town Boundary to the east off Low Lane	The land forms part of a larger housing development and residents will better understand which Parish they are part of if the whole area is within one. The proposal is accepted.
To extend the boundary to the south west to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cherhill View Allotments</li> <li>▪ Cherhill View housing estate</li> <li>▪ Rookery Farm</li> </ul>	The residents of Cherhill View have already established a connection with Calne Without Parish and the Council has agreed to provide additional services to residents. The Parish Council has CIL funds to provide the improved footpath. Therefore, the proposal is rejected.
To extend the Town boundary to the east to connect the A4 in the south to the A3102 and to the west by Kingsbury Green Academy to incorporate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Penhill Farm to Abberd Lane</li> </ul>	The Land is part of open countryside to the east of Calne and has a better connection to Calne Without Parish. Any future development should be decided through the Neighbourhood Plan which covers both Parishes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Land west of Kingsbury Green Academy</li> </ul>	The Land is part of open countryside to the south of Calne and has a better connection to Calne Without Parish. Any future development should be decided through the Neighbourhood Plan which covers both Parishes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Land to the north of Quemerford</li> </ul>	The Land is part of open countryside to the east of Calne and has a better connection to Calne Without Parish. Any future development should be decided through

	the Neighbourhood Plan which covers both Parishes.
Proposal for a new Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council	The residents of Derry Hill, Studley and Pewsham will not be better served by a separate a Parish Council and it would be to the detriment of the remainder of Calne Without Parish. The proposal is rejected. However, if Wiltshire Council is minded to accept the proposal the Parish Council requests that Wiltshire Council considers how they would approve the continuation of Calne Without Parish Council or split the Parish to other Councils.



# CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

www.chippenhamwithoutparishcouncil.gov.uk

**Vivian A Vines MBE**  
**Clerk of the Council**

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**3 Wardour Road**  
**Chippenham**  
**Wiltshire**  
**SN14 0PA**

23 October 2019

Democratic and Member Services  
Wiltshire Council

Dear Democratic and Member Services

## **Community Governance Review – Wiltshire**

I refer to the Council's letter of the 26 September 2019 advising that the Council wished to retain the status quo but pointing out that the situation could change following the conclusion of the Local Government Boundary Commission Review.

Following the completion of that process the Parish is to remain in its' entirety in the Kington Division, which is welcomed by the Parish.

You wrote on the 7 October 2019 advising that your Council's Electoral Review Committee has received a request from Chippenham Town Council to include land to the West of the A350, particularly that known as Chippenham Rugby Football Club, within their Parish.

For the record this Council has received no communication from Chippenham Town Council on this matter, which the Council finds extraordinary in itself, but even more so with the knowledge that that Council is in the preparation stage of their Neighbourhood Plan, to which my Council has been invited and is to willingly participate in the consultations. The Designated Area for the Chippenham Neighbourhood Plan is land within their entire Parish Boundary a defined western extremity being the hard A350 line.

Similarly, the Chippenham Without Neighbourhood Plan, in a more advanced state of preparation, has a Designation Area of the entire Parish Boundary and as Chippenham Town Council are well aware is proposing that the Parish, particularly land between Allington and Sheldon adjacent to the A350, becomes and is retained as the "Western Landscape Setting" for the Town.

The intention being to protect and open up access to the rural areas, that includes already the Chippenham Rugby Football Club, referenced in the Chippenham Town request, also the Allington Cricket Club adjacent to it and both accessed from within the Chippenham Without Parish via the A420 Allington crossroads, through the rural lanes and Sheldon Corner and also Golfing facilities with the Driving Range near the Chippenham Without Parish Boundary with Yatton Keynell.

In addition, as your own Spatial Planning Services will confirm, following considerable public involvement through the Chippenham Site Allocation Plan Process and now adopted Policy covering a forward period of many years reinforces the position that the A350 is the defined development limit and should not be breached. Just quoting from it "the A350 is a clear and logical boundary to the town, which should not be breached". Just as an aside this is reinforced by your own Council's recent bid for infrastructure funding to create a Northern and Eastern bypass from the A350 around the Town to provide major development opportunities in those areas I the forthcoming years.

Furthermore, the large northern Chippenham developments presently encroaching into the present Langley Burrell Without Parish will soon become extended Wiltshire Council Chippenham Hardenhuish and Monkton Divisions. As part of the Boundary Commission proposals the Chippenham Without Parish welcomes the fact that it is to remain within the rural Kington Division the boundary of which is the A350.

You will see from all of this initial response the Parish is against any and all suggestions for existing areas to be picked off as a thin end of the wedge, which undoubtedly will act as a catalyst in years to come for more land grabbing leading to the argument that Chippenham Town should expand further West both in terms of land usage and built form.

I finish this letter by referring again to two related issues for the Governance Review that I mentioned in my letter of the 26 September 2019

Firstly, the request from the late Mr Jesper Eades to move Cedar Lodge, Allington into the Chippenham Without Parish from Kington St Michael Parish, supported by both Councils and secondly the withdrawal of the request to change the Parish name.

The Council trusts that their views will be accepted and that your own Council resolve to support these local views.

Yours sincerely

*Vivian Vines*

For Chippenham Without Parish Council

YK

## Chippenham Without Parish Council.

### Community Governance Review : Parish Boundaries.

18<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

#### Response to Chippenham Town Council's proposals.

1. Where the Town Council holds planning consultations is a matter solely for the Town Council as is their responsibility to notify their own residents in Chippenham. If they have any problems in this regard they should hold their consultations within the town at one of the many suitable venues. Therefore the reason given is both illogical and invalid.

Also, it can be noted that Chippenham Without Parish Council holds its Parish Council meetings at St. Peter's Church Hall, Lordsmead, which is within Chippenham, and Chippenham Without Parish Council has no problem notifying its residents of these meetings and its venue.

2. Regarding the review of the Wiltshire Council Electoral Boundary the boundary between the Wards of Chippenham and Wiltshire Council's Kington Ward, of which latter Wiltshire Ward Chippenham Without Parish is a part, has been and remains the A350. Therefore the Wiltshire Council Electoral Boundary review provides no basis for crossing the A350 boundary as requested by Chippenham Town Council.

3. As Wiltshire Council Spatial Planning Services will confirm, following considerable public involvement through the Chippenham Site Allocation Plan Process and now adopted Policy covering a forward period of many years, the Chippenham Site Allocation Plan (CSAP) reinforces the position that the A350 is the defined development limit and should not be breached. To quote from it, ref. CSAP 2.16, "the A350 is a clear and logical boundary to the town, which should not be breached."

4. The emerging Chippenham Without Neighbourhood Plan sees the Parish of Chippenham Without as wholly distinct from Chippenham Town and defines itself based on the existing boundaries between Chippenham Without and Chippenham Town. The emerging Chippenham Without Neighbourhood Plan has a vision to maintain and enhance its rural nature in conjunction with its own recreational facilities and access to them, open to both the surrounding parishes and the town, across a broad spectrum of outdoor pursuits which includes Chippenham Rugby Football Club, Allington Cricket Club (same site as the Rugby Club), the Golf Centre (adjacent to Yatton Keynell), many public rights of way through and around the parish, with safe routes on the parish's lanes for cycling and riding. Maintenance and enhancement of these facilities in a rural context is a central policy objective of the Chippenham Without Neighbourhood Plan.

5. For all of the above reasons the Governance Revue is urged to reject this unsubstantiated and unwelcome request for annexation of the area of the Rugby and Cricket Clubs.

#### Response to Yatton Keynell Parish Council's proposals.

1. The existing historic boundary between Yatton Keynell and Chippenham Without parish councils is a clear field and ditch demarcation line and effectively has a natural character.

2. There is no reason advanced by Yatton Keynell for this change and no formal advice has been received from its parish council. If Yatton Keynell parish council should advance a hitherto undeclared set of reasons to the Governance Review during its allotted slot at this hearing on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019, then Chippenham Without Parish Council reserves and requests the right of response.

3. Chippenham Without considers the sub-station and Golf Centre, along with the field opposite alongside the B4039, to be natural parts of its parish being either rural in nature or providing an outdoor recreational facility, both of which are features that the emerging Chippenham Without Neighbourhood Plan is seeking to maintain or enhance. In the case of the sub-station, this is distinctly separated from the built area of Yatton Keynell parish by a field within the Chippenham Without boundary.

Conversely, Yatton Keynell parish has provided no reason as to why either the sub-station, the Golf Centre or the field opposite are logical parts of Yatton Keynell Parish nor why they are a more logical entry point to the village which is some 400 metres distant.

4. Chippenham Without emerging Neighbourhood Plan will seek to ensure that built development is consistent with its rural character, and that such development within its existing boundaries is focused on the need of its present residents and commercial uses.

Conversely Yatton Keynell does not have nor intend to produce, to the best of knowledge, a Neighbourhood Plan. Therefore if this proposed boundary change were to occur against our wishes it creates the possibility of unwanted and unplanned development on land currently within Chippenham Without parish.

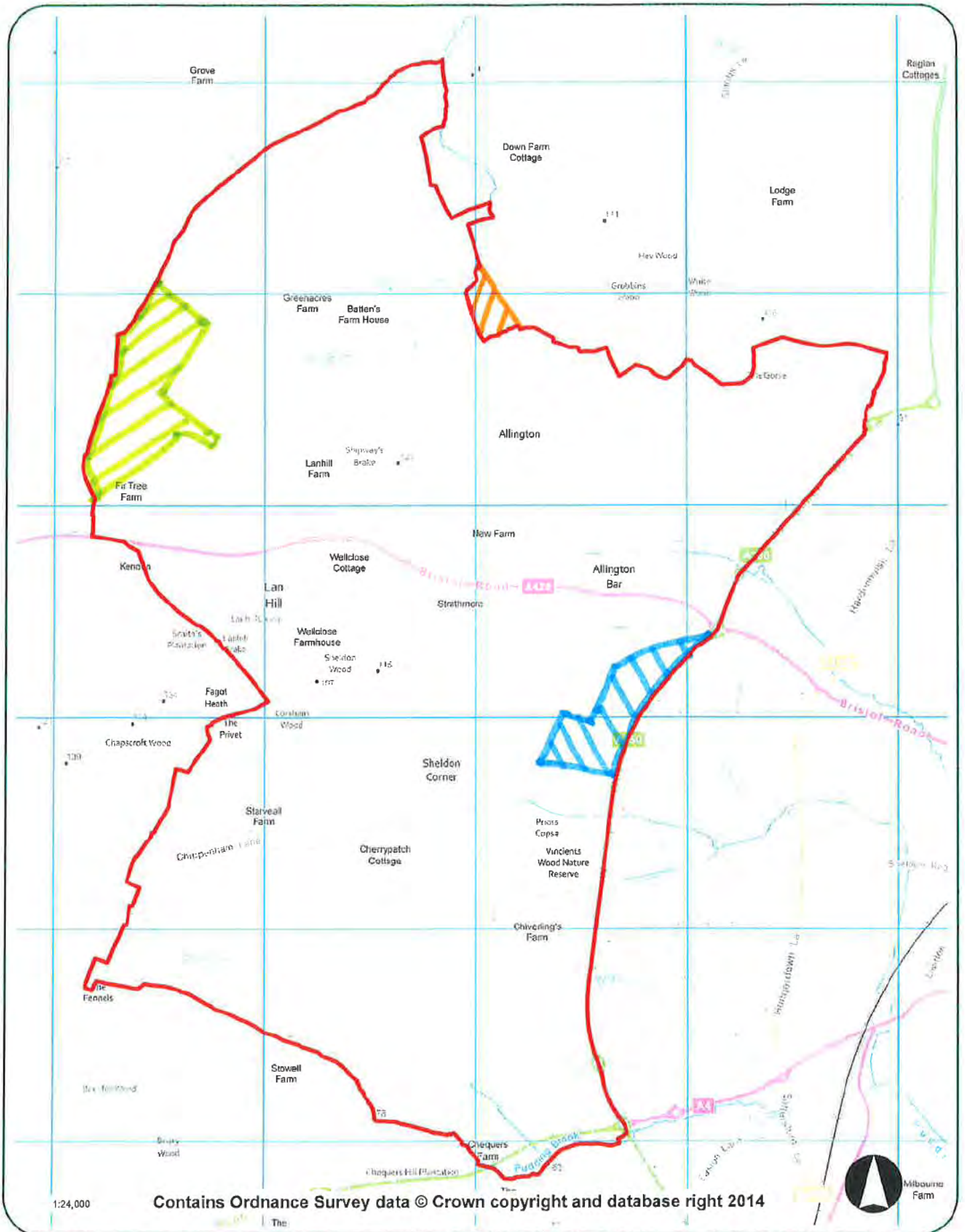
5. Accordingly, we urge the Governance Revue to reject this unsubstantiated and unwelcome request for annexation.

Presented by:

Cllr. Howard Ham, CWPC Deputy chair.

Cllr. Stephen Eades, CWPC Member.

# Chippenham Without Parish Council Boundary



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# CHIPPENHAM WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

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**SN14 0PA**

5 February 2020

Corporate Services  
Wiltshire Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire BA14 8JN

For the attention of Kieran Elliott - Senior Democratic Services Officer

Dear Kieran

## **Community Governance Review – Wiltshire**

I refer to previous communications, the last being on the 23 October 2019. Since then the Parish Council representatives had the opportunity of meeting your Council's Electoral Review Committee representatives on the 18 December 2019 in Chippenham, when they were able present and discuss matters further. It was felt to be a very positive meeting allowing all parties to highlight issues of concern and the potential impacts.

Briefing Note 20-01 has since been issued, on the 6 January 2020 and was an item on the Parish Council Agenda last week alerting affected Town and Parish Councils of the survey running from 6 January to 26 February 2020. Specific reference was made to residents within affected areas, proposed for transfer from or merging with another Parish, being sent letters alerting them to the survey.

The owner of Cedar Lodge, Allington, the property proposed for transfer from Kington St Michael Parish into Chippenham Without Parish, attended the Council Meeting and was able to show the Council the letter he had received from you advising that the survey was taking place and obviously he will be responding supporting the request.

Although the Briefing Note specifically mentions the request for residents' participation it highlights also the public information events, which will draw in others and of course encourages them to comment. In practice therefore the survey is not limited to simply the residents likely to be affected but in reality anyone who wishes to support or rebuff the proposals, potentially including large numbers of businesses and clubs with vested interests, the total of which could far outweigh the relatively few residential survey returns.

Taking Cedar Lodge as a bad example to make the point. There are 2 persons on the Electoral Roll at the address, who will be supportive of the change but could be far outvoted by others living or working/playing in Chippenham Without Parish. This may be a bad example but I am just trying to make the point on the concern leading on to what has now become a major talking point in the Parish.

This involves the request from Chippenham Town Council to include land to the west of the A350, particularly that known as Chippenham Rugby Football Club, within their Parish. The Parish Council is not party to what additional views their representatives made to the Electoral Review Committee representatives in December 2019. But as far as the Parish Council is concerned still having not received any communication from Chippenham Town Council on this matter, it was claimed that as they hold an occasional public meeting there then it should

be in Chippenham so that participants can easily find it. It has to be assumed that some better case was presented on the 18 December 2019?

The Parish Council can take comfort that, following the completion of Wiltshire County Electoral Division process the Parish will remain in its' entirety within the Kington Division as surely an unacceptable precedent cannot/should not be formed by integrating any parts of Kington Division into Chippenham Divisions now. This would presumably require the whole Wiltshire County Electoral Division process being looked at again, especially if aggrieved parties had another chance?

Furthermore, it is worth stating again that the Chippenham Rugby Football Club, referenced in the Chippenham Town request but also the Allington Cricket Club, who only recently adopted that name, adjoining it are both accessed and can only be accessed from within the Chippenham Without Parish via the A420 Allington crossroads, through the rural lanes and Sheldon Corner. Unless some major restructuring and huge expense created an access and exit from the heavily used A350 Trunk Road, highly unlikely, then this will always be the case. A precedent for this point of view can be taken from the fact that Stanley Park Sports Ground to the east of the Town was required to retain access from the minor Stanley Lane rather than access being taken from the A4 running alongside.

The major concern regarding the consultation process is that it is known that the Rugby and Cricket Clubs are being lobbied to vote for change. Those votes, from dare I say it, outsiders being players, officials, supporters and the like can by far outweigh that possible from the local community itself and if decisions were purely made on statistics then it will/can sway decisions.

The Parish Council's concerns on the survey issue are an important factor but they are comforted again that the matters for consideration are in regards to a Governance Review and not otherwise and just because an adjacent Town might think it would be "nice" to say that the "facilities" are in Chippenham this is no reason why its' Local Authority "Governance" should follow. In fact history shows that these "facilities" have grown, unhindered, over the years with the support of the Parish Council and that they wish this to continue most recently supported by the support given for the multi-purpose play surface recently completed. There is absolutely no "Governance" reason why this should alter and in fact be more supported by the Chippenham Without, Allington, Sheldon and Lanhill Neighbourhood Plan process underway that the Council has advised you of in previous communications.

With this in mind there is a need for the official record to re-iterate today's position.

The Council has received no communication from Chippenham Town Council on this matter, which the Council finds extraordinary in itself, but even more so with the knowledge that that Council is in the early preparation stage of their Neighbourhood Plan, to which my Council has been invited and is willingly participating in the consultations. The Designated Area for the Chippenham Neighbourhood Plan is land within their entire existing Parish Boundary the defined western extremity being the hard strategic A350 line.

Similarly, the Chippenham Without Neighbourhood Plan, is in a more advanced state of preparation, has a Designation Area of the entire existing Parish Boundary and as Chippenham Town Council are well aware is proposing that the Parish, particularly land between Allington and Sheldon adjacent to the A350, becomes and is retained as the "Western Landscape Setting" for the Town.

The intention being not only to protect but to also open up access to the rural areas, that includes already the Chippenham Rugby Football Club, referenced in the Chippenham Town request, also the Allington Cricket Club adjacent to it and both accessed from within the Chippenham Without Parish via the A420 Allington crossroads, through the rural lanes and Sheldon Corner. The Chippenham Without Neighbourhood Plan also includes the golfing facilities with the Driving Range near the Chippenham Without Parish Boundary with Yatton Keynell that I will refer to again later.



In addition, as your own Spatial Planning Services will confirm, following considerable public involvement through the Chippenham Site Allocation Plan Process and now adopted Policy covering a forward period of many years reinforces the position that the A350 is the defined development limit that should not be breached. Just quoting from it "the A350 is a clear and logical boundary to the town, which should not be breached". Just as an aside this is reinforced by your own Council's recent successful bid for infrastructure funding to create a northern and eastern bypass from the A350 around the Town to provide major development opportunities in those areas in the forthcoming years.

Furthermore, the large northern Chippenham developments encroaching into the present Langley Burrell Without Parish will soon become extended Wiltshire Council Chippenham Hardenhuish and Monkton Divisions. As part of the Boundary Commission proposals the Chippenham Without Parish welcomes the fact that it is to remain within the rural Kington Division the boundary of which is the A350.

You will see from all of this response the Parish is against any and all suggestions for existing areas to be picked off as a thin end of the wedge, which undoubtedly will act as a catalyst in years to come for more land grabbing leading to the argument that Chippenham Town should expand further west both in terms of land usage and built form.

I turn now to the late request your Council received from Yatton Keynell Parish Council to "pick off" an area of Chippenham Without Parish near to them.

Originally, that Council had had the decency to approach my Council for views on a suggestion they were considering of promoting a larger area of the Parish than finally submitted, for inclusion within their own Parish in the Review. The Council had responded indicating their opposition to the ideas. Subsequently the Council received amended proposals and was informed that they had been submitted for consideration under the Community Governance Review.

My Council agreed that they would oppose the proposal as the area involved was important to the Parish in endeavours to retain its' rural identity and character within existing historic boundaries through sound community led planning.

This particularly included the several recreational areas and facilities within the Parish including the now Nationally recognised Roman Settlement and proposals to enhance the area by improvements for public access via the Right of Way network for the benefit all surrounding Parishes and Chippenham Town by providing and retaining a rural landscape setting for all.

This was felt to be important for all entrances to Chippenham Without Parish where there was an intention to produce and install new purpose designed highway signage and Yatton Keynell's proposal to simply acquire an intrusive and unnaturally shaped area of land to simply move their signage to indicate entry to Yatton Keynell via Tiddlywink was a nonsense and was not a sound reason to propose and argue for any changes.

As you will recall the Council representatives highlighted this when meeting the Electoral Review Members on the 18 December 2019. In addition of course any such change would raise again the issue of Parish land within the Kington Division moving Divisions, in this case into the By Brook Division and all that entails from the Wiltshire Electoral Division point of view mentioned earlier.

I finish this letter by apologising for the length of it but the Council need to be certain that at all times the local community views are being raised and taken into account in the decision making process as the Review moves forward.

Yours sincerely

  
For Chippenham Without Parish Council

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# HILPERTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Community Governance Review: Response to Trowbridge Town Council's Proposals that the western side of the 'Hilperton Gap' should be transferred to the Town Council

At the October, 2019, meeting of Hilperton Parish Council it was resolved that the Parish Council **OBJECT** to the suggestion from Trowbridge Town Council that the western part of the Hilperton Gap should be transferred from Hilperton Parish Council (HPC) to Trowbridge Town Council (TTC).

There are numerous reasons for this objection and they are given, in no specific 'order', below.

1. The most recent Community Governance Review (CGR) came into effect only on the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017 – two and a half years ago. Whilst HPC acknowledges that TTC may ask for a CGR after such a short period, it would seem that the major reasons for the failure of the earlier TTC request have not changed.
2. Does TTC believe that it can continue to make governance review requests every thirty six months until it gets the 'correct' (in its opinion) answer? This would seem to be the theory that TTC has adopted.
3. Hilperton has been actively working with and supporting Wiltshire Council in meeting housing targets for Trowbridge. There has never been any agreement, either actual or implied, that this would impact on the existing parish boundary. In this respect, a CGR would be unacceptable and likely to be counterproductive to good relations in the longer term.
4. At your meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> October you will be considering your 'Consultation Methodologies'. One of these state 'External Parish Boundary – All electors resident *in area to be transferred* to be sent a physical form for completion. Webpage and online form available, briefing note circulated to parish councils and made publicly available, press releases, update to Area Boards'. The area of the western half of the Hilperton Gap comprises 'green field' land and does not have any residents. You therefore cannot comply with this.
5. As recently as 2016 Wiltshire Council considered an identical proposal, again from TTC. The minutes for the meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, show that Wiltshire Council rejected the proposal by 56 votes to 18. This was not a 'close' vote – WC rejected the proposal by a ratio of over 3:1. The minutes also state that the Working Group (of Wiltshire Council) had considered the proposal and that the response to the consultation process was minimal but this reflected the fact that the land in question is not built upon. **As there was no compelling evidence for change, the Working Group agreed to maintain the status quo.** The situation for the land now, compared to 2016, is basically the same.
6. Although Hilperton is a separate community from Trowbridge, and wishes to remain so, it is also understood that in practice the housing requirements of the two settlements are linked. The adopted Hilperton Neighbourhood Development Plan runs from 2017 – 2026. It coincides with the end date of the Wiltshire Core Strategy with which the NDP shares some of its evidence base. Parts of the HNBP are shown below:-

7.9 Should development of the proposed HSAP site in draft policy H2.3 or any other site take place in the western half of the Gap, then conditions must apply as indicated below. Additionally, while it is understood that much of the Section 106 infrastructure from any such scheme will effectively serve Trowbridge, as the site is located within Hilperton parish, any CIL contributions must accrue to Hilperton.

#### 7.10 Policy 1 – Land between Hilperton and Trowbridge

Development of the land west of Elizabeth Way, as shown on the policies map, shall be carried out in accordance with the Wiltshire Core Strategy, the site specific requirements set out in the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan and the following criteria:

- d. Development in the area to the south of Middle Lane should be laid out and designed to maintain a green edge to the settlement and to minimise its impact on the setting of the village, landscape features and historic assets.
- f. Proposals must be included for protecting biodiversity and creating suitable landscaping and green infrastructure.
- g. Development should be well set back from Elizabeth Way, avoiding a new and abrupt urban edge. Landscaping should help conceal the development from Hilperton and the eastern side of Elizabeth Way.
- h. Access to the site must be carefully considered and sited, especially in relation to pedestrian and horse traffic across the road from Hilperton to Trowbridge.

Any scheme coming forward in the area covered by this policy must demonstrate no adverse impact on woodlands in the south east of Trowbridge which are functionally linked to the Bath and Bradford-on-Avon Bats SAC, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. All new housing should contribute to the strategic migration measures identified in the Trowbridge Bat Mitigation Strategy to offset the in-combination impacts on the Bath and Bradford-on-Avon Bats SAC arising from recreational pressure on local woodland.

As can be seen from the foregoing, the NDP accepted that the land would be allocated by Wiltshire Council for housing in its review of the Local Plan. The NDP then planned to ensure that any development would meet certain standards. **To ensure that the policies of the NDP are met, the land needs to remain with Hilperton and contained within the Hilperton NDP.**

- 7. Section 93 of the 2007 Act requires the Council, when undertaking a review, to ensure that community governance within the area under review will:- be reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area, and facilitate effective and convenient local government. The feelings of the local communities and the wishes of local inhabitants are the primary considerations in considering this criteria.
- 8. The earlier (rejected) proposal from TTC can be summarized from the WC minutes.

#### SCHEME 25 – HILPERTON GAP SOUTH, TROWBRIDGE

- 8.41 the Working Group considered the proposal from Trowbridge Town Council to re-align the boundary with Hilperton Parish Council which would move the boundary out to the new Hilperton Relief Road.
- 8.42 The response to the consultation process was minimal but this reflected the fact that the majority of land in question is not built upon.

8.44 Again, as there was no compelling evidence for change, the Working Group agreed to maintain the status quo.

9. The 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, WC agreed minutes show ‘It was also stated that the main factor to be considered was existing communities as the primary factor **not future development**, and no residents lived in the area. The area was in any case not allocated for future development, **and if development followed at some point, it was at that point the boundary should be reviewed**’.

The council therefore fully accepted that if any change to the boundary needed to be made, it should be when the area had been developed – not merely ‘earmarked’ as a possible development site.

10. It should also be noted that the outline proposal for the land shows all vehicular access as being from Hilperton. The only access into Trowbridge for the houses would be via one public footpath and one bridleway. Any houses would therefore have NO direct feeling that they were in Trowbridge.

Considering the above, Hilperton Parish Council requests that yet another CGR for this land is **NOT** accepted by Wiltshire Council.

..ooOoo..

Marylyn Timms  
Clerk to Hilperton Parish Council  
16<sup>th</sup> October, 2019

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# LANGLEY BURRELL WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

**Vivian A Vines MBE**  
**Clerk of the Council**

**Tel 01249 657695**  
**Email [langleyburrellpc@live.co.uk](mailto:langleyburrellpc@live.co.uk)**

**3 Wardour Road**  
**Chippenham**  
**Wiltshire**  
**SN14 0PA**

23 October 2019

Democratic and Member Services  
Wiltshire Council

For the attention of Kieran Elliott

Dear Kieran

## **Community Governance Review – Wiltshire**

I refer to the Council's letter of the 26 September 2019 advising that the Council wished to retain the status quo but pointing out that the situation could change following the conclusion of the Local Government Boundary Commission Review.

Following the completion of that process and the Divisions altering in time for the May 2021 elections you wrote on the 7 October 2019 advising that your Council's Electoral Review Committee may choose to undertake a review in the Chippenham area and asked for further comment at this time.

The Council acknowledges that there will be a formal consultation period but to assist the process the Council considered the issues at their Council meeting this week. I attach the Official Minute from the 21 October 2019.

## **058/19 CLERKS REPORT**

The following items were received for decision, information, and circulation and for future discussion and matters arising and updates from previous meeting/s.

- c) Community Governance Review. Pursuant to Minute 048/19 (f). Wiltshire Council had invited Parish and Town Councils to submit any requests for changes, including naming of Parishes, or its Wards, total number of Councillors, creation of Wards, changes to external boundaries of the Parish, or the creation/abolition/merger/grouping of Parishes and other such changes. The Council had submitted representations that no changes should be made with the status quo retained. Following the Boundary Commission decision, 058/19 (b) above refers, Wiltshire Council had written seeking the Parish Council's views on the consequential impacts to the Parish arrangements of both Chippenham Town and Langley Burrell Without Parish as the Electoral Review Committee of Wiltshire Council "may" choose to undertake a review in the area. Wiltshire Council had advised that if changes were proposed in any review there would be a formal consultation period but the Parish Council's early comments were welcomed at this time. With regret, and with great sadness, the Council acknowledged that with the new Wiltshire Electoral Division Boundaries now taking effect from May 2021 and with the owners and occupiers of the northern Chippenham development areas likely to look towards

Chippenham for services and amenities and to avoid a situation where the Parish fell within three Wiltshire Divisions then the areas of land involved should become part of Chippenham Parish rather than remain in Langley Burrell Without Parish and Wiltshire Council be informed accordingly.

Basically, the Council, with regret, now know that the large northern Chippenham development areas presently falling inside the Langley Burrell Without Parish will now become extended parts of the Chippenham Hardenhuish and Chippenham Monkton Divisions.

With this in mind a common sense position is that it is sensible for all parts of those new Divisions to be included within the Chippenham Parish Boundary as undoubtedly the residents of the new developments will look towards the urban area of Chippenham for services and amenities and to avoid a situation where the Parish fell within three Wiltshire Divisions.

In agreeing to this the Parish can retain its' rural status and the benefits of being within the Kington Division.

The Council trusts that their views will be accepted and that your own Council resolve to support these locally held views.

Yours sincerely

*Vivian Vines*

On behalf of Langley Burrell Without Parish Council



## **Community Governance Review Request for Information**

This is a response to scheme 24 – Melksham Merger. The request is submitted on behalf of Melksham Town Council.

### **1. Community Identity & Interests**

Melksham is a historic Market town, situated on the River Avon with a population of approximately 17,000. It has a bustling High Street lined with many listed and significant buildings and a beautiful historic quarter including St Michael's All Angel's Church, Canon Square and Church Walk.

As a thriving rural town with a very active community with a strong sense of community spirit and civic pride, Melksham boasts numerous clubs, groups and classes and annual events including a summer carnival, Party in the Park and the Food & River Festival. The wider community area has a total of 200 community groups. Melksham has, through its community groups and volunteers, been recognised for some outstanding achievements, winning gold in South West in Bloom three years running, and for its magnificent Christmas Light display. The Assembly Hall which is run, managed and maintained by the Town Council is the town's 'village hall', providing a vast array of services to Melksham and the wider community.

Melksham has one senior school, Melksham Oak, located in Melksham Without. It is the only senior school in the entire Melksham Community.

### **2. Effective and Convenient Local Governance**

Melksham Town Council believes that the parish boundary between Melksham Town and Melksham Without has become anomalous in the light of recent housing development.

The completion of residential development on land south of Western Way, Bowerhill, land east of Semington Road, Berryfield, and land east of Spa Road, has meant that the urban conurbation of Melksham has now spread eastwards whilst the urban footprint to the south of the town has also expanded linking Berryfield and Bowerhill. These developments have been left with open space and facilities jointly managed by the Town Council and Parish Council. Decisions about ongoing maintenance and ideas for their development have to go through both councils before decisions can be made.

The expansion of Melksham is set to continue, and the needs of the combined community will grow. From a master-planning and strategic perspective, it makes sense for one Council to serve the whole of Melksham. It is vital that governance of the whole Melksham community is clear, effective and convenient with one point of contact to reflect the identity and interests of that extended community. If Melksham Town and Melksham Without are combined, Melksham will become the fourth largest parish in the county with a population of approximately 25,000. This will offer the town far stronger bargaining power when it comes to leveraging public investment.

In order to thrive even more the town needs to become the central hub for the whole of Melksham and all the surrounding villages, we need to be one Council with one vision to achieve a truly cohesive community, with a strategic forward plan reflecting the view and needs of the entire Melksham community. One administration with one point of contact and one brand will offer strong and accountable, visible local government and leadership for all. One council will best deliver the needs and aspirations of the whole community effectively. By removing a layer of administration, decisions affecting both the town and parish can be taken in the knowledge that they will be invoked without scrutiny from another local government organisation.

The major challenges affecting the town arising from rapid demographic change can be better dealt with through a combined administration. Indeed, local communities should have access to good quality local services ideally in one place. As the Town Council embraces fully the devolution of services from Wiltshire Council the wider community will benefit from the ability of that administration to deliver quality services, economically and efficiently.

The need to establish strong clearly defined boundaries is a fundamental pre-requisite in reflecting local identity and common interests which local governance arrangements must accommodate and address. It is the Town Council's contention that community cohesion will be best served by the creation of one council working on a common agenda, vision and strategic goals.

Linda Roberts BA (Hons) PGCAP, FHEA, FSLCC  
Town Clerk

Melksham Town Council  
Market Place  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6EF

**From:** [Teresa Strange](#)  
**To:** [Lorraine McRandle](#); [Elliott, Kieran](#); [Linda Roberts](#)  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review - initial response of MWPC to MTC  
**Date:** 24 September 2019 14:05:15  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear Linda and Kieran

Please find response from Melksham Without Parish Council to the email correspondence received below from Melksham Town Council, which was agreed unanimously at their Full Council meeting last week:

Melksham Without Parish Council serves the local villages around the town of Melksham, and has always prided itself on its local knowledge of, and sensitivity to, the concerns of its communities and its desire that the rural nature of the parish and the individual character of its constituent villages and communities are preserved.

However, it does recognise that when a new housing development sits better within the parish of the Town Council then it should be transferred to them. It therefore stands by its offer to transfer the 100 dwellings at land to the north of Sandridge Common that have recently been built, and the 450 dwellings at land to the east of Spa Road that are to be build; to Melksham Town Council.

It does not recognise that the same applies to Beanacre, Shaw, Whitley, Berryfield, Bowerhill, Sandridge, Redstocks, Woodrow and Outmarsh and believes strongly that these individual communities sit better within the existing parish boundary of Melksham Without. This complies with the guidelines of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE), in terms of preserving community cohesion, improving electoral representation and providing strong, clear, physical boundaries on the ground.

Melksham Without Parish Council believe that the proposal of an amalgamation by Melksham Town Council does not meet the LGBCE guidelines (Clause 114) that state “that Grouping or Degrouping needs to be compatible with the retention of community interests. It would be inappropriate for it to be used to build artificially large units under single parish councils” .

Regards,  
Teresa

Teresa Strange  
Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill, Melksham  
Wiltshire, SN12 6TL  
01225 705700  
[clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk](mailto:clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk)

[www.melkshamwithout.co.uk](http://www.melkshamwithout.co.uk)

Want to keep in touch?

Follow us on facebook: Melksham Without Parish Council or Teresa Strange (Clerk) for additional community news

On twitter: @melkshamwithout

On Instagram: melkshamwithoutpc

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**From:** Lorraine McRandle <lorraine.mcrandle@melksham-tc.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 10 September 2019 18:28

**To:** Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

**Cc:** Linda Roberts <linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk>; Teresa Strange <clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk>

**Subject:** FW: Community Governance Review

Kieran

Thank you for your email.

At a Town Council meeting on 2 September, Members resolved to put forward a request for a Boundary Review as follows:

That there is a full amalgamation of both Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Councils, but creating a new parish of Shaw and Whitley, which is currently within the parish of Melksham Without.

I hope this clarifies Melksham Town Council's position.

Regards

Lorraine McRandle  
Committee Clerk



Melksham Town Council  
The Town Hall  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6ES  
(01225) 704187



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**From:** Elliott, Kieran <[Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 10, 2019 3:10:13 PM

**To:** Linda Roberts <[linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk](mailto:linda.roberts@melksham-tc.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Community Governance Review

Dear Clerk to Melksham Town Council,

On 12 July 2019 and 28 August 2019 the Electoral Review Committee requested expressions of interest from any parish for any changes to governance arrangements in their area. Once received the Electoral Review Committee would determine, as soon as was practicable, which areas to review, at what time, and in what manner, noting that as a result of the delayed electoral review of Wiltshire Council by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, it might not be possible to review all areas requested in time for the May 2021 local elections.

A request has been received from Melksham Without Parish Council for a governance review which impacts Melksham Town. As detailed in the previously mentioned emails, and notwithstanding any communication Melksham may have received directly from Melksham Without Parish Council, I am therefore emailing you to seek any initial views the town may have on the proposal, as follows:

*The Parish Council put forward a request to Wiltshire Council for a Boundary Review and show, as with the previous Boundary Review in 2016, that the Parish Council acknowledges where development sits better with the Town, **and that the 100 dwellings at Sandridge Place and the 450 dwellings to extend the east of Melksham should be transferred to the Town.** However, where development does not fit with urban areas, that the rural nature and*

*parish boundaries are respected.*

This email is not in place of any formal consultation, which would take place once a review is underway, but is to seek an early comment and/or counter from any parish that would be impacted by a proposal.

Therefore, I would welcome any views the town council may have.

All parishes will be recontacted after 1 October 2019 once the decision of the LGBCE in relation to Wiltshire Council unitary divisions is known, in case this has any bearing upon any requests or lack thereof.

Yours

Kieran Elliott

**Senior Democratic Services Officer**

Corporate Services

County Hall

Bythesea Road

Trowbridge

BA14 9JG

01225 718504

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Elliott, Kieran](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Re: Trowbridge Town Governance Review  
30 September 2019 15:56:56

---

Keiran,

Reference to my previous e-mail of the 22nd Sept 19. North Bradley PC will not be submitting a request to the proposed TTC Boundary changes due to the advance state of the North Bradley Neighbourhood Plan which is at Regulation 16 stage and is currently with the Inspector for examination.

NBPC totally oppose the Trowbridge Town proposals, but we have seen the proposals both from both Southwick PC and West Ashton PC which we would support.

Regards  
Roger Evans  
Chairman  
North Bradley PC

[REDACTED]

On Sun, Sep 22, 2019 at 6:13 PM Roger Evans [REDACTED] > wrote:

Dear Kieran,

In your e-mail of 10th September, you sought the views of North Bradley Parish Council on the Trowbridge Town Governance Review. This Review not only concerned North Bradley PC, but also Southwick PC and West Ashton PC. I have now briefly consulted with the other Parish Councils and also my Wiltshire Councillor and our initial reaction is to totally reject any proposals to change all our Parish Boundaries with Trowbridge Town.

The main reasons for rejection are:-

- a. The Boundaries were only discussed and agreed within the last 2 years and does not warrant another review at this time.
- b. The Neighbourhood Plan for North Bradley has recently completed its Regulation 16 consultation and the examination by an Inspector is about to commence. In addition both West Ashton PC and Southwick PC are formulating their own Neighbourhood Plans. Therefore it would be very premature to consider any amendments to our Boundaries until they all have been finalised.

The above comments are our joint PC interim reply to the Boundary Review. We all would therefore propose that the Trowbridge Town Review is formally rejected at this time. In the future we would like full consultation with all parties before any further actions are taken.

Regards  
Roger Evans  
Chairman  
North Bradley PC

[REDACTED]

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NORTH BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The main reasons for rejection on the proposed Trowbridge Town Boundary changes are:-

a. The Boundaries were only discussed and agreed within the last 2 years and does not warrant another review at this time.

b. The Neighbourhood Plan for North Bradley has recently completed its Regulation 16 consultation and the examination by an Inspector as been completed and confirmed by Wiltshire Council. Therefore the North Bradley Neighbourhood Plan is now a legal document. The only action outstanding is the Referendum which is due early 2020. In addition both West Ashton PC and Southwick PC are formulating their own Neighbourhood Plans. Therefore it would be very premature to consider any amendments to our Boundaries until they all have been finalised.

c. Eventhough the recent WC Councillor wards have been recommended to change, this does not warrant the Parish Bounderies have to amended to coincide with them. The recommendation were based on future building developments and the increase in people, this could be years away. Therefore any boundary changes now could be seen purely as "a land/cash grab.

d. The proposed changes does not take into consideration the WC Core Policy CP1 & 2.

Signed



R E Evans  
Chairman  
NBPC

11<sup>th</sup> December 2019

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# SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sue Bond  
Email: clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk

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4th October 2019

## Community Governance Review Melksham Without Parish Council's Request for a Boundary Change Between Melksham and Seend

### Seend Parish Council's Response

#### Introduction:

Seend Parish Council discussed Melksham Without Parish Council's request for a boundary change between Melksham Without and Seend Parish at their meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Their request was discussed at length and Councillors formally resolved that this request should be opposed. (24 September 2019: minute no: 2019/276.6). The following outlines our reasons for opposing this change.

This is the same as the request that was submitted for the 2015 Community Governance Review, which was rejected by Wiltshire Council. As there are no new arguments for the change, Seend Parish Council can see no reason why this new request should be approved this time.

Their arguments for the boundary change relate solely to the BRAG picnic area. It does not mention any justifiable reasons for moving Giles Wood and the surrounding farmland which would also have to be moved if they want the boundary to be redrawn so that the canal becomes the new boundary line.

The creation of the picnic area by a small group of volunteers known as the Bowerhill Residents Action Group was supported by Seend Parish Council at its inception. Its creation was largely funded by the Melksham Community Area Board and from local businesses who provided skills and materials. Seend Parish Council acknowledges that BRAG has always been the driving force behind the development, expansion and day to day maintenance of the picnic area, including restoring the site after it was vandalised. The picnic area is just one part of BRAG's voluntary work in Bowerhill.

Contrary to what is implied in Melksham Without's submission for the boundary change, Seend Parishioners, particularly those from Seend Cleeve, do regularly visit this part of our Parish incorporating a visit to both picnic area and Giles Wood in a circular walk along the canal and across farmland. The current chairman walks along the canal to Semington and back each morning and is very aware of the picnic area. The current Clerk has also visited the site many times over her 20 years of living in Seend Cleeve and has seen the BRAG picnic site as it has been developed. It is a highly valued part of our Parish and we know our parishioners would be keen for it to remain within our boundary.

### Finance

With regard to finance, Melksham Without Parish Council has a much larger Precept than Seend Parish Council, so is better able to absorb maintenance and development costs relating to the picnic area. Melksham Without Parish Council also receives large amounts of CIL payments, some of which seems to be used for playground maintenance and bin emptying. Looking at their accounts, it is not clear exactly how much is solely spent on the maintenance of the picnic area. Their Clerk has kindly given some ball park figures. They also have the resources to carry out tasks such as bin emptying and the services of a caretaker who is already employed by MWPC. Similarly, with public liability insurance, surely the coverage of the picnic area is absorbed in their insurance schedule as a whole.

The financial management of the picnic area is not enough in itself to warrant the boundary line being moved. The picnic area in land size is very small compared to the neighbouring farmland and Giles Wood that would also have to be moved.

### The Canal

The Kennet and Avon Canal runs through the north part of Seend Parish with farmland adjoining both banks of the canal. The canal in its rural setting is an important feature of Seend Parish and forms a vital part of the identity of the parish.

### Giles Wood

In 1993, 5,000 trees were planted by Freddie Giles of Seend Park Farm on his land on the north side of the canal. This beautiful wood is open to the public for recreational use and provides a much-enjoyed tranquil space for both residents of Seend and Melksham Without parishes and canal visitors. For over 25 years this woodland has been cared for by the Giles family and continues to be managed by Mrs Giles following

the death of her husband Freddie in 2016. We have a letter from Mrs Giles who is strongly opposed to any boundary change that would move Giles Wood out of Seend Parish. She believes that in order to continue to make Giles Wood available to residents of both parishes, the land needs to be controlled by Seend Parish. Seend Parish Council very much respects her wishes on this. A copy of her letter is attached.

### Farmland

This agricultural land, along with Giles Wood and the picnic area, acts as a buffer between the rural parish of Seend and the urban parish of Melksham Without. Keeping this farmland inside our Parish boundary is very important to us as it creates a much valued green space. There is a concern that if this land is moved into Melksham Without Parish, there is a risk of the land being encroached for further housing development. We feel it will be much better protected from development if it stays inside our boundary. With 100s of houses already being built in the Bowerhill area of Melksham Without Parish, it is important that we keep this green space between the two parishes, and so we believe it is safer inside Seend's Parish boundary.

### Proposed by pass

We note that there are 3 possible routes for a bypass around Melksham. The blue route looks as though it may cross into this part of Seend Parish. We understand that the Blue route is the one most favoured by Melksham Without Parish Council. We are concerned that this request for a boundary change may also be linked to the proposed by-pass. This route would have a huge impact on the BRAG picnic area and Giles Wood. Seend Parish Council would expect to be a consultee on the bypass proposal. Were the boundary line to be re-drawn, we may lose our right to have a say.

If the bypass becomes a reality, then surely it would be better to have a discussion about boundaries once the bypass is built.

### Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council Proposed Merger

We note that Melksham Town Council, as part of their Community Governance Review, is requesting that Melksham Without Parish is merged with the Town. We understand that Melksham Without Parish Council will be objecting to this request. But should this merger be agreed to, then it will be even more important that this area remains inside our rural parish boundary and not be ceded to Melksham Town.

### Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan


This is close to being finalised with the first draft being presented to the Parish Council for approval in November 2019 and to be completed by 2020. The plan has been based on the current parish area, and it would not make sense for it to be changed at this late stage of our Neighbourhood Plan preparations.

### Local Green Space

Seend Parish Council has supported Melksham Without Parish Council's promotion of the BRAG picnic area so that it can become a designated Local Green Space in Seend's emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

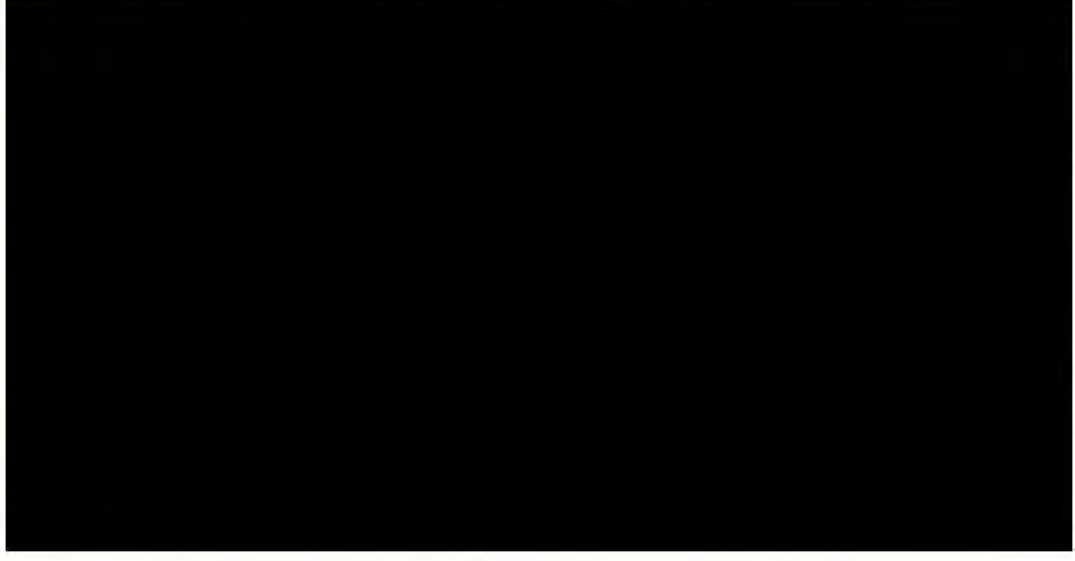
### Conclusion

Seend Parish Council strongly believes that our parish boundary line with Melksham Without should remain unchanged. It is critical that the above views and those of Mrs Giles are taken into account.



14th September 2019

Mr Terry James  
Chairman Seend Parish Council  
c/o Mrs S Bond



Dear Mr James,


### **Giles Wood and Boundary Proposals**

I understand that Melksham Without Parish Council is proposing boundary changes which would involve Giles Wood becoming part of their parish rather than remaining in the parish of Seend.

As the owner of Giles Wood I am strongly opposed to this boundary change. The last time that this suggestion was made and public meetings run by Wiltshire Council were held in Melksham Assembly Rooms I attended on both occasions. It was obvious to me that Councillors speaking on behalf of MWO Parish Council had a hidden agenda other than the reason proffered viz that they were unable to insure volunteers working on the BRAG picnic area as it was outside of their jurisdiction. I felt that if the boundary changes were made, the land grab effected would then enable them to expand Bowerhill housing beyond the old railway line and right up to the K&A canal.

The wood planted in 1993 by my late husband and myself is now a wonderful public amenity. The wood along with the farmland North of the canal and indeed the BRAG picnic site forms a buffer between the expanding housing areas and the canal and enables residents of both Seend and Bowerhill to escape to an area of beauty peace and tranquillity. I walk the tow path and the wood daily and meet many walkers who value these assets. I would like to continue to make Giles Wood available to residents from both parishes but to do this I need it to be controlled by my own parish, Seend.

At present both in the wood and on our pasture land fronting Semington Brook, we permit walkers to wander at will on permissive paths as well as ROWs. It is also used by schools in Bowerhill and by many local Scout groups. There is no vehicle access and as a result some effort is required to access the amenity by those who value and physically care for the trees and their environment.





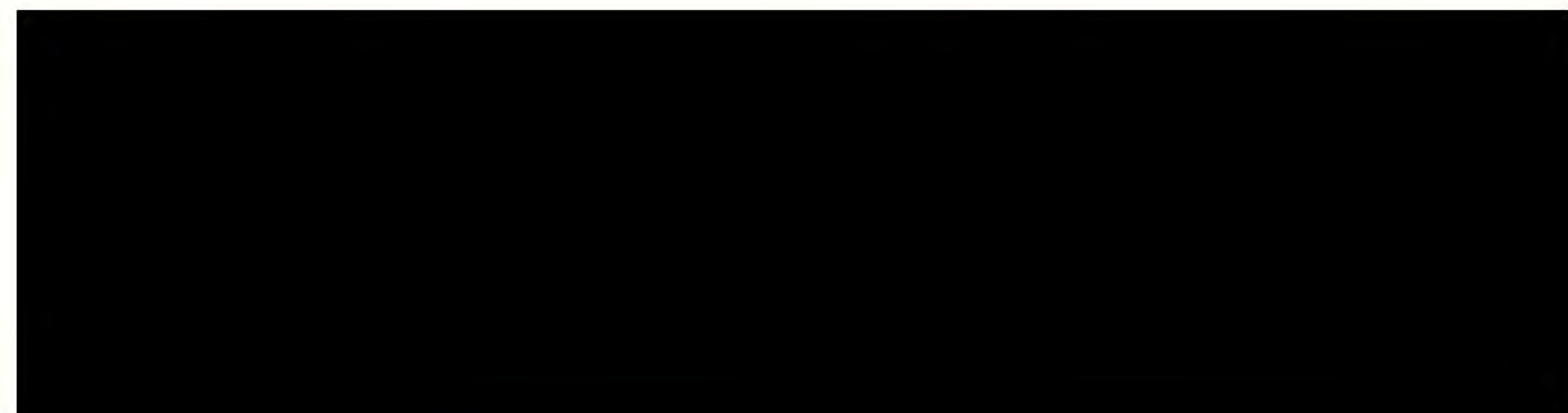
I am fearful that if Seend loses control and building is permitted to expand this amenity would be lost. Sadly in the past we did experience some rare vandalism but the regular walkers now ensure this no longer takes place. If access were easier I think the seclusion now so valued would lead to the wood being used by a different group who would not think twice about lighting fires, damaging trees or leaving litter. In that case I would have no option other than to fence the bridleway on both sides and restrict access to any other permissive paths in the wood and probably the fields.

I currently manage Giles Wood on my own with the assistance of an annual visit from a forester. I have a felling licence which enables me to thin trees as areas become overcrowded and tree crowns become blocked for light. I have some physical assistance from a local agricultural worker but no financial or grant assistance whatsoever. There are over 5000 British trees and many wild flowers in the wood, some trees being planted by local residents in memory of those they have lost.

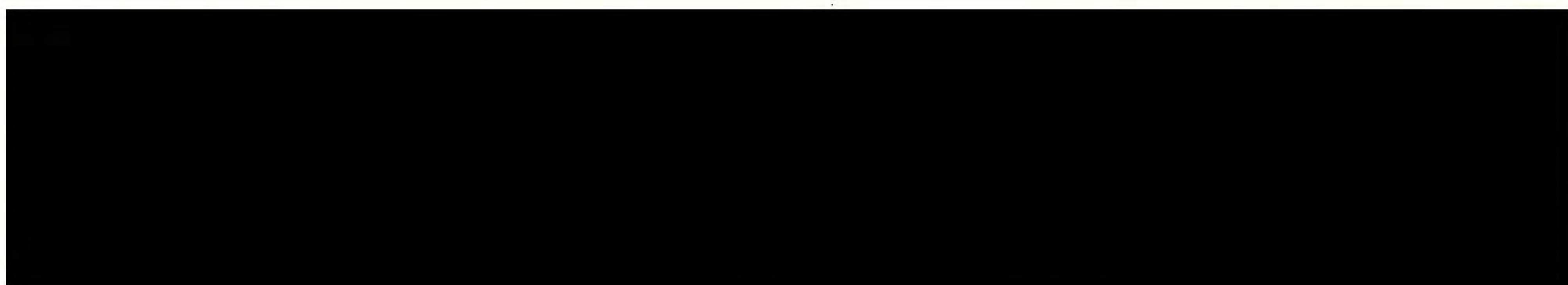
My husband Freddie was very proud of our wood. He wanted it to be enjoyed by children and adults alike as he had so enjoyed playing in woodland in his own childhood in Wiltshire. I would like it to be kept as a haven. Please do not sanction this land grab attempt and let one of Seend's green spaces be lost.

If there is a public consultation I would be pleased to receive details so that I might attend and object in person.

Yours sincerely,



Janet Giles





# SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sue Bond

61 Seend Cleeve

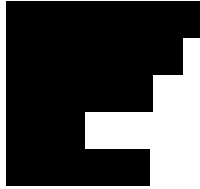
Melksham

Wiltshire

SN12 6PX

Email: [clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

Tel: [REDACTED]



4th November 2019

Dear [REDACTED]

## Number of Parish Councillors on Seend Parish Council

Your emails were raised at the parish council meeting and guidance was sought from Councillor Seed who, as you know, represents a number of parish councils in his ward, so has experience on how well the various neighbouring parish councils are run. His feedback was very useful. He strongly feels that the number of parish councillors Seend has is right for a parish of our size. This is not just in terms of population but geography as well. There are four distinct areas of the parish: Seend main village, Sells Green, Seend Cleeve and Inmarsh, plus a number of outlying farm areas such as Broad Lane/Bath Road and the outer farms on the Trowbridge Road. The spread of councillors that Seend PC currently has is fairly spread around the parish enabling a fair representation at council meetings.

### 11 Councillors – where they live

Seend main village - 4 Councillors

Sells Green - 2 Councillors

Seend Cleeve – 2 Councillors

Inmarsh – 2 Councillors

Bath Road – 1

If there were fewer councillors, there is a chance that some parts of the parish would have little representation. There has been criticism in the past when the council was top heavy with councillors just from Seend main village.

### Community Governance Review –

Following the completion of the LGBC review of electoral boundaries in Wiltshire, Wiltshire Council asked all the town and parish councils in the county if there were any changes they wished to make to their governance. This is called a Community Governance Review. I raised this at the July Parish Council meeting. After a discussion, all the parish councillors said they

did not want to make any changes to their governance arrangements. This included not changing the number of councillors. This was reported in the minutes.

The chance to submit a request for a review has now passed.

### Size of Councils

In the Electoral Arrangements guidance notes that I received from Democratic Services it states some of the following extracts:

“The 1972 Act specifies that each parish council must have at least five councillors, there is no maximum number..... In practice there is a wide variation of council size between parish councils. Research has show that the typical council representing less than 500 people had between 5 and 8 councillors, those between 501 and 2,500 had 6 to 12 councillors.....The LGBC has no reason to believe that this pattern of council size to population has altered significantly over recent years... In considering the issue of size, the LGBCE is of the view that each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to its population, geography and the pattern of communities.” I have attached the full section on Council size.

Following your email, I looked up the council sizes of the neighbouring parish councils:

### Comparison with Neighbouring Parishes

Seend – 11 councillors  
Bromham - 14 councillors  
Steeple Ashton - 16 councillors  
Keevil - 7 councillors  
Potterne - 11 councillors  
Worton - 9 councillors  
Semington - 9 councillors  
Bulkington - 8 councillors  
West Ashton - 7 councillors  
Poulshot - 6 councillors  
Broughton Gifford –

It is not easy to find out the number of electorates for each of the parish councils as this will be in their electoral rolls. It would be too time consuming to contact each parish clerk to find out. But knowledge of the area, should give you an idea of the size of the villages

### Election of Parish Councillors

When you last raised this issue a couple of years ago, I did ask the councillors how they came to be on the parish council. In between local government elections, when there is a vacancy through a resignation, the vacancy is advertised in Spotlight and on the noticeboards. Candidates apply to the parish council. For interest, Tony Murch was elected in March 2011 when he stood against 2 other candidates. Mr Wood was elected in July 2015 when he stood against 2 other candidates. Mr James got onto the parish council after standing in two elections. Mrs Heatley stood a couple of times before being voted on.

Democracy - Parish councillors are elected every four years at local elections. Anyone from the parish can stand for election. As you know there is a due process to go through. They don't stand for a political party but on a desire to do their best for the community they live in. So, it would be extremely difficult for an electorate to know who it is best to vote for other than through a friendship. The turnout of voters at local parish elections is much lower than when there is a national election.

Some parish councils don't manage to fill all their councillor places and if this is a regular occurrence, then yes there may be just cause to reduce the number of councillors, However, Seend has pretty much filled all the councillor vacancies at each election, even if the election is uncontested. So the fact that there are always at least 11 people willing to stand for parish council is a good thing. It is up to individual parishioners to decide if they want to stand for election, and as experience shows, getting volunteers to join the committees of some of our clubs and organisations is not easy.

If an election is requested at other times, ie when there is a councillor vacancy through a resignation, then there is a cost to the parish council. For our size, it would be in the region of £2,100. We do not have a large precept, so to pay for an election would have a serious impact on our finances as we do not have large reserves of funds to cope with paying for an election.

#### Work Load of a Parish Councillor

Being a parish councillor does not just require attendance at the monthly meeting. There are sub-committees for highways, planning, precept, neighbourhood plan where issues pertinent to the parish are further discussed in more detail and reported back to full council. We also have councillor representation at Wiltshire Council meetings such as the Melksham Area Board, CATG and Spatial Planning. We have councillor representation on Seend organisations such as the Community Centre, the Lye Rec Field Trust, and the CL&AT. One of the councillors is our Footpaths Officer. Three of our parish councillors are part of the Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group: Georgina A'Bear (chairman), Carole Vince and Pamela Akerman. There has been an extraordinary amount of work involved in the NP's preparation over the last few years. It is near completion, but has taken up hours and hours of these councillors time.

If the number of parish councillors was reduced as you suggest, the workload for the parish councillors would become too onerous. They are after all volunteers. A large proportion of them are still working as well. The current councillors have a wide range of backgrounds and work experience. There are several farmers, a magistrate, several who run businesses, a retired doctor and a medical professional.

There are a lot of issues going on in the village at the moment: Blossom Hill, the proposed housing development in Seend Cleeve, a number of highway projects going through CATG, the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan, defending our parish boundary against Melksham Without PC's request for it to be moved. These all take up a lot of time.

## Working with Wiltshire Council

Parish Councils have very little statutory powers to make big changes in their parish. There are set procedures to follow when making representations to Wiltshire Council, particularly on planning and highways. As you will appreciate following the Blossom Hill planning application in 2017, it does not seem to matter how much representation is made from the Parish Council and residents, the final decision always rests with Wiltshire Council on planning applications.

With highway issues, there is a set procedure to follow in order to get highway improvements carried out. This means working with the Community Area Transport Group. With reduced highway budgets, and the DoT highway regulations and criterias for measures such as speed limits and signage, we are reliant on the expertise of the highway engineers to advise what is and what is not feasible. We also have to compete against other town and parish councils within the Area Board area we are in.

The next local elections will be in May 2021. This will be the next opportunity for the parishioners to decide if they wish to stand for the Parish Council or not. I already know of one or two residents who are keen to stand. So hopefully, there will be enough new candidates for an election to take place. And we may well be able to suggest that candidates produce some “publicity” about them themselves to help parishioners decide who to vote for.

In the meantime, there are some very dedicated people on the parish council with whom I have a very good working relationship and a great deal of respect for. They do an enormous amount of good in the Parish.

Yours faithfully

Sue Bond  
Clerk

# SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sue Bond

Email: [clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk)

Tel: [REDACTED]

9<sup>th</sup> October 2019

## Community Governance Review Request

### Number of Parish Councillors on Seend Parish Council

#### Seend Parish Council's Formal Response.

Thank you for informing us of the Community Governance Review request from a Seend parishioner regarding the number of Councillors on Seend Parish Council.

I believe that this is the same parishioner who wrote to us in early October 2019. This was discussed at our October Parish Council meeting. All Councillors agreed that they were happy with the current number of Parish Councillors and did not want it to be reduced. The reasons are outlined below:

#### Parish Size:

Seend is a large Parish, not just in terms of population, but in its geography as well. There are four distinct areas of the Parish: Seend main village, Sells Green, Seend Cleeve and Inmarsh, plus a number of outlying farm areas such as Broad Lane/Bath Road and the outer farms on the Trowbridge Road.

The current number of Parish Councillors is fairly spread around the Parish enabling a fair representation at our council meetings. See below:

#### 11 Councillors – where they live

Seend main village - 4 Councillors

Sells Green - 2 Councillors

Seend Cleeve – 2 Councillors

Inmarsh – 2 Councillors

Bath Road – 1 Councillor

If there were fewer Councillors, there is a chance that some parts of the Parish would have little representation. There has been criticism in the past when the Parish Council was top heavy with Councillors just from Seend main village.

#### Size of Councils

In the Electoral Arrangements guidance notes that we received from Democratic Services the following extract states: .. “a typical council representing between 501 and 2.500 population had between 6 and 12 councillors....”

Having looked at surrounding Parishes, it is clear that our Parish Councillor number is on a par with other Parishes with a similar population size. We have always had 11 Councillors, despite an increase in the population.

### Elections:

Whilst it is true that we have not had a contested election at the last two local council elections (2017 and 2013), we have managed to get our full quota of 11 councillors. In between these local government elections, there is rarely a vacancy. If a Councillor has resigned, once the correct process for advertising the vacancy has been undertaken, we have been able to fill the vacancy through co-option with little problem. In many cases, there has been more than one candidate for a co-option and a vote has had to be taken. This would suggest that whilst uncontested, there is sufficient number of willing candidates to take on the role of Parish Councillor.

Some Parish Councils don't manage to fill all their Councillor places and if this is a regular occurrence, then yes there may be just cause to reduce the number of Parish Councillors, But Seend Parish Council is not in that position.

Looking at the list of uncontested elections from the 2017 election, it is clear that the vast majority of Parish Councils are uncontested, so Seend is no different from the majority of Wiltshire Parish Councils in this respect.

### Work Load of a Parish Councillor

The duties of a Parish Councillor are wide ranging. It is not just attending the monthly Parish Council meetings. There is also representation on sub-committees such as planning, highways, precept, and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group where more in-depth discussions are carried out. There is Councillor representation at Wiltshire Council meetings such as Melksham Area Board, CATG and Spatial Planning.

If the number of Parish Councillors was reduced, the workload for the Parish Councillors would become too onerous. It is a voluntary role and a large proportion of them are still working as well. The current Councillors have a wide range of backgrounds and work experience offering differing viewpoints which enhances the debate on particular issues. There are several farmers, a magistrate, several who run businesses, a retired doctor and a medical professional.

### Conclusion:

Seend Parish Council would be against the reduction in the number of Councillors from 11 to 9 for the reasons stated above. We strongly feel we need this number to carry out our duties effectively and efficiently.

# SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Sue Bond  
Email: clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk

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Teresa Strange, Clerk  
Melksham Without Parish Council  
The Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill  
SN12 6TL

CC: Community Governance Review Committee

26<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Community Governance Review  
Melksham Without Parish Council's Request for a Boundary Change Between  
Melksham and Seend (Scheme 11)  
Request for a Revision

Seend Parish Council's Response

At last night's Parish Council meeting, Seend Parish Councillors discussed your offer to remove Giles Wood from your CGR request to move the boundary between Seend Parish and Melksham Without Parish.

Whilst appreciating your willingness to offer this compromise, the Councillors still strongly feel that they want the whole boundary to remain unchanged. Mrs Giles has confirmed that she is of like mind. So we do not feel a meeting is needed.

The Kennet and Avon canal runs through the north part of Seend Parish with farmland adjoining both banks of the canal. The canal in its rural setting is an important feature of Seend Parish and forms a vital part of the identity of the Parish. This is recognised in our Neighbourhood Plan which has just begun its Regulation 14 consultation, so is well on its way to being completed. The BRAG picnic site has been included in our Neighbourhood Plan as a Local Green Space.

The agricultural land, along with Giles Wood and the picnic area acts as a buffer between the two parishes. Keeping this farmland inside our Parish boundary is very important to us as it creates a much valued green space. We feel it would be better protected inside our parish boundary than in Melksham Without's.

With the recent announcement that the proposed A350 bypass has been given government funding, there is a much stronger likelihood that it will be built along the route that would affect this part of our two parishes. This is likely to occur much sooner than had previously been thought. Therefore, we feel that it would be far better to put off any discussion on the boundary until the bypass route is confirmed and work begun.

With the added uncertainty of whether Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council will be merged or not, increases the importance for us that this part of our boundary should remain unchanged.

Whilst recognising the support that Melksham Without Parish Council gives to BRAG for all their voluntary work around Bowerhill, the Councillors still believe that the financial management of the picnic area is not enough in itself to warrant the boundary line being moved. Seend Parish Council also makes an annual contribution to support the BRAG picnic area and Bowerhill residents' use and enjoyment of this local green space. The picnic area in land size is very small compared to the neighbouring farmland and Giles Wood. Even if Giles Wood was excluded, it is still some 40 acres of open countryside that would be lost to Seend Parish. Mrs Giles manages her woodland at her own expense, yet opens it up to parishioners from Melksham and Seend, as well as the tourists who visit the canal. Whilst the status quo prevails that will remain unchanged.

With kind regards,

Sue Bond  
Clerk



# SOUTHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

**Chair:** Cllr Kath Noble, [REDACTED]  
**Clerk:** Nicola Duke, April Rise, 81 Studland Park, Westbury, Wiltshire, BA13 3HN [REDACTED]

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Mr Kieran Elliot  
Senior Democratic Services Officer  
Wiltshire Council  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

*By email*

Dear Mr Elliot

## **Community Governance Review – Southwick**

I write further to the information supplied in relation to the Community Governance Review and the proposals from Trowbridge Town Council (TTC), which were discussed at a meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Whilst we understand the formal consultation process is yet to be run I am directed to submit the Parish Council's initial comments.

At the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 the Chair and members objected to the proposals put forward by TTC. They also resolved to submit a community governance review to request a redrawing of the boundary with Trowbridge to include Church Lane, The Nestings and Old Brick Fields. This latter resolution supports the recommendation of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, of which I understand you have already been informed.

In respect of the PC's objection to the proposals submitted by TTC we wish to record the following supporting statements:

1. Approval of the proposals would require that Southwick's designated Neighbourhood Development Plan Area would need to be re-drawn.
2. This being the case, all existing NDP maps and documentation would need to be amended/re-drafted.
3. This would result in additional consultancy costs being incurred, which would place an unreasonable burden on the resources of the Parish Council.
4. The above would result in the delivery of the NDP for Southwick being further delayed. Such a delay would likely result in competing large-scale developers submitting applications for developments in the centre of the village once again, completely undermining Southwick's NDP.
5. Should the Steering Group identify the need for more than 8 affordable homes then these can be allocated from those being planned at Southwick Court. Should the change in boundary proceed, then Southwick would lose this facility.
6. The Parish Council would, as a result of this proposal, lose all claims to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies associated with the development. Southwick PC would also lose future precept/taxes on the dwellings built at Southwick Court.
7. Southwick Primary will inevitably end up taking more children from Trowbridge, not Southwick. This will impact school revenues in the longer term.

In summary, Southwick Parish Council opposes the TTC CGR request due to the impact it will have on the NDP Designated area, impact on the structure of the current draft NDP, the amount of rework required and the likelihood of further delays /costs.

In respect of the Community Governance Review request from Southwick PC I attach a map which shows the proposed boundary change.

I would be most grateful if you could record the PC's objection and its supporting reasoning, together with the proposal for a change to the parishes boundary with Trowbridge.

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me and I look forward to receiving the details of the formal consultation in due course.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Nicola Duke.

Nicola Duke B.A (Hons), FSLCC  
Parish Clerk  
For and on behalf of  
Southwick Parish Council

## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** John Eaton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 03 November 2019 17:29  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Southwick Court/CGR

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Hello Kieran,

I have been made aware of a potential roman road and roman settlement at Southwick Court.

Please see photographic copies of aerial photograph, maps and drawings attached.

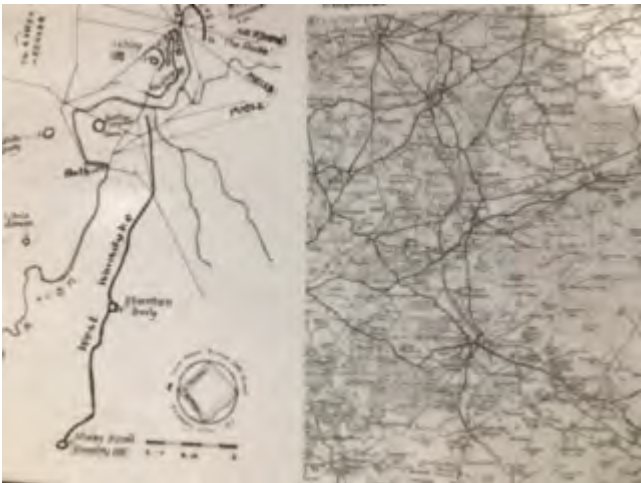
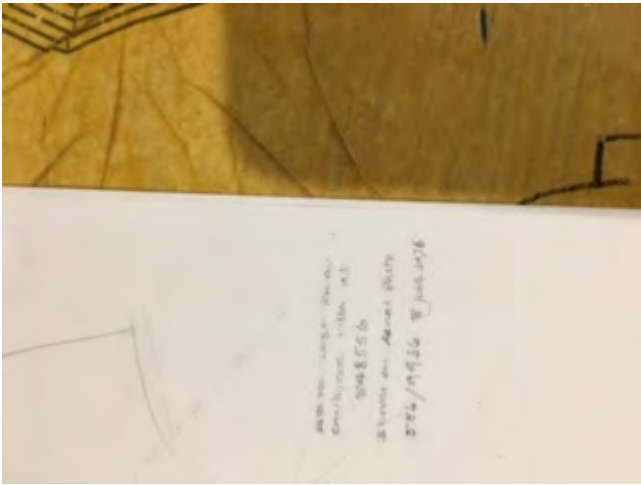
The presence of a former roman road and settlement on this site may have a bearing on the CGR request made by Trowbridge Town Council.

It may also have a bearing on the proposed development of 180 new homes near to where the roman settlement is located.

Grateful if you could share the attached materials with relevant interested parties within WC.

Many thanks in anticipation.  
John Eaton





Sent from my iPhone

## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** John Eaton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 December 2019 18:25  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Cc:** Nicola Duke  
**Subject:** Re: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Hello Kieran,

It was good to finally meet with with you in person last Wednesday.

I would just like to reiterate Southwick's position regarding the CGR.

Southwick objects to and continues to oppose the CGR request submitted by Trowbridge Town Council, on the following grounds:

- **Core Policy.** The proposed boundary changes are against Wiltshire Core Policy (CP1 & 2) and will erode the integrity and identity of Southwick as a rural villages.
- **Coalescence.** This boundary change proposal is against Wiltshire Core Policy and Southwick's NDP Green Space policy. The residents of Southwick overwhelmingly wish to remain an urban village and remain completely separate from Trowbridge Town. This can be seen from the results of public consultations in relation to Southwick's Neighbourhood Development Plan. If this boundary change takes place, Southwick would effectively become a suburb of Trowbridge. This is something that the residents of Southwick patently do not want.
- **Premature Proposal.** The proposed boundary changes are premature – none of the proposed development work at Southwick Court has started or is likely to begin within the timeline of these proposed boundary changes.
- **Misleading Narrative.** Trowbridge Town Council's proposal for boundary changes is inaccurate and misleading. As part of their CGR Request, Trowbridge state "All sites proposed are extensions to the town". This is not true, certainly in Southwick's case, as Southwick is rural in nature and 3 miles from central Trowbridge.
- **Financially Motivated.** Trowbridge Town have only targeted proposed areas of new housing development to be put forward for boundary change. This is effectively a policy of 'land-grabbing' for monetary reasons. What happens next time Trowbridge run out of money? More land grabbing from the surrounding villages?
- **Neighbourhood Planning.** The proposals will have a detrimental impact to Southwick's emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan, resulting in re-work, further delays and additional expenditure.
- **Local Plan.** The proposal for 180 new homes at Southwick Court is being imposed on Southwick Parish in order for Wiltshire Council to meet housing targets set by central government. Southwick are ready to work with Wiltshire Council but the housing to be built on this site is on Southwick soil. In this respect, housing numbers should be allocated to Southwick Parish as part of the Trowbridge Remainder, not Trowbridge Town.
- **Government Policy – Brownfield first.** There is a very large brownfield site in the centre of Trowbridge (Bowyers) that can easily accommodate c400 new homes without being impacted by the TBMS. Our strongest suggestion is that both Trowbridge and Wiltshire Council look to the Bowyers site to meet the housing figures for Trowbridge to 2026.

- **Detriment.** There are absolutely no benefits to Southwick, in any form whatsoever, as a result of this proposed boundary change. There will only be negatives for Southwick.

With regard to Southwick's CGR request this, is based on the following points:

- Residents in and around Church Lane would rather be part of a rural village than an urban town.
- The area has geographical nearness to Southwick Country Park.
- The existing urban sprawl of Trowbridge is already too near to Southwick.
- Will provide additional protection for the Lambrook Waterway, especially with regard to the impact of possible future housing development.

With regard to the potential historical restriction raised during the meeting. It was originally thought that the presence of an ancient settlement at Southwick Court would have some bearing and help support our CGR request. However, it would seem that this is not the case based on Richard Clewer's comments. Therefore we will be using the existence of an ancient settlement to help prevent any further housing development at Southwick Court and to preserve a green 'landscape gap' between Southwick and Trowbridge.

Hope this clarifies Southwick's position.

I would remain grateful if you could keep myself and Nicola Duke advanced notice of any future consultations/ pre-consultation meeting being arranged.

Again, many thanks for all your help.

Kind regards  
Cllr John Eaton  
Chair, Southwick Residents Association.

On 11 Dec 2019, at 06:23, John Eaton [REDACTED] > wrote:

ok with me Kieran.

Kind regards  
John Eaton  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Richard [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 10 December 2019 at 19:48:10 GMT  
**To:** CGR <[CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk)>, John Eaton [REDACTED] >, [reeswacf@\[REDACTED\]](mailto:reeswacf@[REDACTED])  
**Cc:** "Prickett, Horace" <[Horace.Prickett@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Horace.Prickett@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

Hi Kieran,

I understand from Horace that he discussed this with you this afternoon (10/12/2019) and that the three parishes had already agreed to amend the order...

1. TTC

2. Hilperton
3. Southwick, North Bradley and West Ashton together

Regards

Richard

---

**From:** CGR [<mailto:CGR@wiltshire.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 10 December 2019 17:14  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Prickett, Horace  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

Dear Chairmen,

I understand from Cllr Prickett that North Bradley, West Ashton and Southwick will be coordinating for tomorrow's sessions, scheduled as below.

Therefore, it was suggested that Hilperton could take the 1530-1600 slot, and the three parishes the slot thereafter, since it was felt there would not be a need for a 1.5 hour session.

Cllr Clark at Hilperton thought that would be a good idea and was checking with his Vice-Chair who would be attending, would you be able to confirm if that is ok?

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**  
<image001.png>  
Tel: 01225 718504  
Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
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**From:** Richard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 December 2019 13:45  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran <[Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

Thanks Kieran,

Just a thought, are these sessions closed i.e. will Trowbridge be allowed to attend all the sessions listed?

1500-1530 – Trowbridge Town  
1530-1600 – North Bradley  
1600-1630 – Southwick  
1630-1700 – West Ashton  
1700-1730 - Hilperton

Thanks

Richard

---

**From:** Elliott, Kieran [<mailto:Kieran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 28 November 2019 22:33  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee

To confirm, the venue would be at County Hall.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**  
<image001.png>  
Tel: 01225 718504  
Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
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**From:** Democratic and Member Services  
**Sent:** 28 November 2019 11:30  
**Subject:** RE: Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee  
**Importance:** High

Dear parishes,

With my apologies, I accidentally left off Hilperton from the initial email,

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**  
<image001.png>  
Tel: 01225 718504  
Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
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**From:** Democratic and Member Services  
**Sent:** 28 November 2019 11:24  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review - 11 December Meeting with parishes and representatives of the electoral review committee  
**Importance:** High

Dear parishes,



This email is to confirm the arrangements and timings of the sessions for representatives of parishes to meet with representatives of the Electoral Review Committee as part of initial information gathering, as previously discussed for **11 December**. The timings may have been tweaked so please let me know if they are suitable and we will do the best we can.

1500-1530 – Trowbridge Town  
1530-1600 – North Bradley  
1600-1630 – Southwick  
1630-1700 – West Ashton  
1700-1730 - Hilperton

As noted below this is not the last opportunity for any comments if anyone is unable to attend.

The intention would be that each parish would have a short session in turn to provide their views on any [schemes](#) which have been proposed directly to the representatives from the Committee, to draw attention to relevant factors of community identity and effective governance, as well as any evidence or historical or future factors which the parish feels should be taken into account by the committee when it prepares its draft recommendations.

Those draft recommendations will not be prepared until approximately March 2020, following a period of public consultation, so this would not be the final chance for any comments to be received. The Committee will be provided with any comments which have already been received from parishes, but if you have any further information you would like them to see please let me know, and bring along any information you feel is relevant.

Please could you report to reception upon arrival, and you will be brought up to the appropriate room as soon as possible.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**  
**Senior Democratic Services Officer**  
**Corporate Services**

<image001.png>

Tel: 01225 718504

Email: [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)

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## CGR Presentation – West Ashton, North Bradley and Southwick Parishes

Date – 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Trowbridge Town Council has proposed various boundary changes around their urban area. This really can only be seen primarily as a land grab to exploit the revenue opportunity that will be generated by the housing development as identified in the evolving Core Strategy.

West Ashton has embarked on a Neighbourhood Plan that is now at the stage of REG 14. There is a defined and approved area for this plan, which has already had to be altered once at an earlier stage. This was because Wiltshire Council at its Full Council meeting in July 2016 ignored the recommendations of the working party setup to review the boundaries. This resulted in “Old Farm” and “The land West of Biss farm” being transferred to Trowbridge, causing a significant loss in revenue for West Ashton Parish Council, nearly half its precept (about £2500).

The current forecast for Ashton Park, which is already 3 years behind and still doesn't look promising for a number of reasons.

- The re-routing of the A350 has to be started / completed before development on Ashton Park can commence.
- The land west of biss farm, which has had planning permission since 1999 is now finally subject to a planning application - 17/09961/OUT - Land West of Biss Farm, West Ashton Road, West Ashton Trowbridge Wiltshire. This does not conform to Core Policy 35 as the site was formally expected to be a business park and is therefore contrary to the policy, which was intended for activities falling within use classes B1, B2 and B8 and a assessed by a number of criteria. For example: *The proposed development will generate the same number, or more permanent jobs than could be expected from the existing, or any potential employment use.* It would seem highly likely that the Ashton Park business area, which was moved from North Bradley to West Ashton will go the same way.
- There are other planning applications e.g. 17/12509/FUL - Land SE of Southview Park Trowbridge Wiltshire

**The above points leads one to question whether the developer has the capacity or business need to commence any of these projects at this time?**

Overall this makes the need for a boundary change premature and certainly detrimental to West Ashton's Neighbourhood Plan and erodes the integrity of West Ashton Village and Parish as a whole.

In the longer term Trowbridge cannot be allowed to continue to grow to the detriment of adjacent parishes and communities. The urban sprawl would significantly encroach on the surrounding parishes with an obvious negative impact on the integrity of the villages. This of course is not the intended consequences of the Core Strategy.

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Community Governance Review  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
BA14 8JN

24 February 2020

Your Reference:  
Our Reference: FMQ/W7289-1

Direct Line: 0117 930 9572

Email: [fquartermain@thrings.com](mailto:fquartermain@thrings.com)

Dear Sirs

**Wiltshire Council Community Governance Reviews 2019-2020 - Representations on behalf of Southwick, West Ashton and North Bradley Parish Councils**

We are instructed by the Southwick, West Ashton and North Bradley Parish Councils (together "our Clients") in relation to the ongoing Community Governance Review of boundaries of the Parish of Trowbridge, Hilperton, West Ashton, Southwick and North Bradley.

Our Clients have a number of concerns about the changes that are proposed and we write to set those out in full for consideration by the Electoral Review Committee.

**Legal Background**

1. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 devolved the power to take decisions about matters around the creation of parishes and their electoral arrangements to local government bodies. Wiltshire Council ("the Council") is therefore the responsible body for undertaking community governance reviews for those parishes that fall within its administrative area.
2. From 2017-2019 the Local Government Boundary Commission for England ("LGBCE") undertook an electoral review of the Council. This resulted in a number of recommendations which in turn has led the Council to conclude that a community governance review is necessary.
3. On 9 July 2019 the Full Council of the Council delegated authority to its Electoral Review Committee to undertake community governance reviews. At a meeting on 31 October 2019 the Electoral Review Committee resolved to undertake those reviews subject to published terms of reference ("the ToR"). The ToR include the following:

*"Trowbridge, Hilperton, North Bradley, West Ashton and Southwick.*

*Review to Cover:*

*Internal and external boundaries of the Parish of Trowbridge and neighbouring parishes as listed and associated warding and other arrangements in respect of the areas impacts by the*

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Email: [solicitors@thrings.com](mailto:solicitors@thrings.com) • [www.thrings.com](http://www.thrings.com) Also in Bath, London, Romsey and Swindon

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*LGBCE final recommendations for the unitary divisions of Southwick, Trowbridge Drynham and Trowbridge Park, and other areas within the parishes of Hilperton, West Ashton, Southwick, North Bradley adjoining the parish of Trowbridge and areas of Trowbridge adjoining the parishes of West Ashton and Southwick."*

4. In March 2010 the Government produced guidance entitled "guidance on community governance reviews" ("the Guidance"). The Guidance is expressly not an authoritative interpretation of the law as it pertains to community governance reviews, however, the Council is required to have regard to the Guidance in reaching any decisions.
5. The Guidance requires that community governance is reflective of the identities and interests of the community in any given area, and that it is effective and convenient. It states that the Council should consider a number of influential factors in its decision making, including:
  - 5.1. The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
  - 5.2. The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish.
6. Consequently, the representations in this letter will focus on the effects of the proposals on those factors

#### The Proposals

7. The proposals that affect our Clients and against which they object are as follows:
  - 7.1. Scheme 14: Trowbridge 2 - Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension from West Ashton Parish Council to Trowbridge Town Council;
  - 7.2. Scheme 15: Trowbridge 3 - Land in the Ashton Park Urban Extension, Elm Grove/Drynham Land and White Horse Business Park from North Bradley Parish Council to Trowbridge Town Council;
  - 7.3. Scheme 16: Trowbridge 4 - Land in the Southwick Court allocation from North Bradley Parish Council to Trowbridge Town Council; and
  - 7.4. Scheme 17: Trowbridge 5 - Land in the Southwick Court allocation from Southwick Parish Council to Trowbridge Town Council.
8. The reasoning for these proposals is set out as follows:
 

*"All of these areas are allocated for development as part of the Core Strategy of the Wiltshire Housing Sites Allocation Plan or are closely associated to these areas for development with clearly identifiable boundaries including natural barriers such as rivers and streams, roads and roads proposed as part of the development. They are all extensions to the town, the main one is described in the Core Strategy as 'An Urban Extension'. The others all contribute to the Trowbridge Town development requirements and no to the village development totals."*

#### Objections

9. Our Clients have a number of concerns about the proposals and consequently object to the suggested changes.
10. The first ground of concern is that the proposed changes are fundamentally premature. Trowbridge Town Council rely on a proposed urban extension and a number of housing allocations to demonstrate a need for a boundary change. Whilst it may be the intention for an urban extension to be delivered, and for housing to be brought forwards on other allocated sites, this is simply at too early a stage for it to form the basis of a boundary change. There is no current justification in terms of size or population to justify severing this land from its current

community. Indeed, only schemes 15 and 17 show any substantive change to the predicted population numbers of the areas in question.

11. Further, the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan is yet to be adopted by the Council. It cannot rationally form the basis for an assessment of likely future development so as to justify incorporating open land under the umbrella of an urban town council.
12. It is clear, therefore, that the proposals are pre-emptive of future development plans rather than reliant upon them. The housing sites in question are either unallocated, or without planning consent, such that an application of the definition of deliverable within the planning policy context would show them not to be deliverable sites. Consequently, a realignment of parish boundaries based upon these assumed developments would be premature.
13. Second, the justification for the changes is based on a misunderstanding of “urban extension”. Whilst it is accepted that an urban extension involved the expansion of a town or city (as defined by the Planning Portal Glossary) this definition applies to the urban form, and not the administrative function. To suggest that an urban extension necessitates an administrative boundary change is simply not justified. Boundary reform based on an urban extension could only rationally be done subsequent to the sites being built out. At that time the boundaries of the community could be argued to have changed and community cohesion might well justify a change in the parish boundary. Quite simply we are not in that position yet.
14. Instead, the current proposals will only seek to split land from its existing community. There is nothing within the Guidance which would support the severance of rural land from a rural parish for the benefit of a town council. To do so would be contrary to the influential factors set out within the Guidance.
15. Third, a change in parish boundary will have negative effects on neighbourhood plan making in our Clients administrative areas. North Bradley’s neighbourhood plan is currently at examination and will require amendments to be made that are likely to require further consultation and delays to its progress. This will be especially true if allocated housing sites are removed from the parish and new sites are required to be found in order to demonstrate a proper attempt to meet their housing need in accordance with the government’s standard methodology. A change at this stage may indeed necessitate a fundamental rethink.
16. Both Southwick and West Ashton are designated areas and have shown progress towards consulting on their own neighbourhood plans, progress which would largely be undone by the proposed changes.
17. A further consideration here is the application of CIL receipts. This is especially relevant as all of the proposed changes relate to perspective development rather than actual housing numbers. The Council will be aware that regulation 59 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended) requires 15% (25% where a neighbourhood plan is in place) of CIL receipts from development within an administrative area to be passed to that parish or town council. By seeking to have all prospective development around Trowbridge incorporated within Trowbridge Town Council, the town council is seeking to ensure that all those receipts are subsumed by them to the detriment of our Clients and the communities that they serve. Consequently the proposals will have a disastrous effect on community cohesion.
18. Finally, it is relevant that the adopted Wiltshire Core Strategy 2015 sets great importance on the separation between Trowbridge and the communities in Southwick, North Bradley, and West Ashton. It states:

*“it is recognised that the villages surrounding Trowbridge, particularly Hilperton, Southwick North Bradley and West Ashton, have separate and distinct identities as villages. Open*

*countryside should be maintained to protect the character and identity of these villages as separate communities. The local communities may wish to consider this matter in more detail in any future community-led neighbourhood planning"*

19. Despite this, the Council is now considering a substantial erosion of the separation that exists with large areas of what is currently part of that "separate and distinct" identity absorbed in to Trowbridge itself. This has significant repercussions in terms of the protection of that identity, but also future (and indeed current) neighbourhood planning as set out above. Consequently, the proposed boundary changes are directly at odds with the Council's own planning policy.

#### Conclusion

20. For the reasons set out above, the proposals contained in schemes 14 to 17 would destroy the existing cohesion in each of the current communities for no identifiable benefit. There is no justification for any of these proposals in terms of parish size, population, or boundary location.
21. Whilst it maybe that future development occurs such that the size, population or boundary location in each of these areas would justify a change, to make any changes prospectively and on the basis of a justification provided by development plan documents that are either unadopted or talk about development in the most general of terms would be wholly premature.
22. The proposals represent a significant land grab by Trowbridge Town Council that will alleviate development pressure on that locality by moving it on to smaller and less sustainable locations in the rural parishes. Further they will have significant ramifications on community funding and neighbourhood planning.
23. Consequently, the revisions set out in schemes 14 to 17 should be excluded from the community governance review and the parish boundaries should remain as they are in those locations.

If we can be of any further assistance in relation to this matter, please don't hesitate to contact the writer on the above contact details.

Yours sincerely,



Thrings LLP



**From:** [clerk@wilcotandhuish-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wilcotandhuish-pc.gov.uk)  
**To:** [Elliott, Kieran](#)  
**Cc:** [Clewer, Richard](#); [Oatway, Paul](#); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Consultation flaws Re: Community Governance Review Pewsey Area - 4 December  
**Date:** 17 January 2020 12:10:05  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)

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Dear Kieran,

Last Saturday, I learned that residents of Nursery Barns (Woodborough/Manningford) had not yet been written to by Wiltshire Council.

Today, I hear that a resident of Oare has received - only today...! - the information about the CGR. Bearing in mind that the consultation started on 6th February, the survey has been live for nearly two weeks without many people being aware of it. This really is not good enough and must have some sort of negative impact on the legality and validity of the consultation. Surely the letters should have gone out before the survey went live.

Obviously I had received the briefing note regarding the consultation, but assumed that residents had been written to AT THE SAME TIME.

We are not happy with the way scheme 34 is worded. There is no mention of the fact that the aim of the review has in fact already been met i.e. these cottages and caravan park are already all in the same parish. As I explained at our meeting on 4th December, the anomaly we were trying to correct was not actually an anomaly at all, but a mapping inaccuracy.

So the question we need to be asking is - are you (Sunnyhill residents) happy to stay in Oare or do you wish to move to Pewsey? If to stay in Oare, the maps need to be redrawn correctly to show that all properties are within the Oare boundary. This would avoid future generations of clerks and councillors falling for the same incorrect belief that there is an anomaly.

If they choose to transfer into Pewsey, then the boundary would be redrawn along the road as shown.

Could you please send me an e-copy of what has been sent to residents so that I am fully informed before being deluged with questions from them?

And when can I expect to receive formal consultation docs for parish councils to formally respond? I believe we were going to be written to also? I have not received anything in today's post.....

Kind regards,

Ruth Kinderman, Clerk, Wilcot&Huish (with Oare) PC

On 2019-11-29 12:46, [clerk@wilcotandhuish-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@wilcotandhuish-pc.gov.uk) wrote:

Dear Kieran,

Just to confirm that timing is good for us now. Also that Peter Deck and I agreed no further action at Sharcott - looking more closely at the map it is easy to see why the boundary was put where it is!

Look forward to seeing you Wednesday,

Thanks,

Ruth, Clerk, PC

On 2019-11-27 16:47, Elliott, Kieran wrote:

Dear all,

This email is to confirm the arrangements and timings of the sessions for representatives of parishes to meet with representatives of the Electoral Review Committee as part of initial information gathering, as previously discussed for 4 December. The timings have been tweaked a little, so please confirm if this would be a problem.

**The session will be held at County Hall in Trowbridge at 1230-1315 for Wilcot (and Huish), Woodborough and Manningford.**

Please ask for me at reception and you will be brought up. The representatives of the Committee will be interested in the views of the parishes for any schemes which have been submitted, additional reasoning for those schemes, and any supporting evidence or factors they believe should be taken into account by the Committee when it prepares draft recommendations. Those draft recommendations will not be prepared until approximately March 2020, following a period of public consultation. Details of any suggestions for the Sharcott area and any reasoning would be useful.

Yours

**Kieran Elliott**

**Senior Democratic Services Officer**

**Corporate Services**

**Wiltshire Council**

Tel: 01225 718504

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**From:** [PSMA](#)  
**To:** [Elliott, Kieran](#)  
**Subject:** RE: CS-128170-R0F9C8 RE: Live Contact Us Webform - Customer Services - Can't find your answer? - 2/10/2020 2:07:55 PM TT:001390514  
**Date:** 11 February 2020 16:06:58

---

Hello Kieran,

Thank you for contacting Ordnance Survey about the parish boundary for Wilcot, Wiltshire.

We have had a quick trawl back through Orders.xls and LGBCE Database for local orders and can find no evidence of the boundary ever being moved. It was the same back in a 1987 order for this area as it is now. The last Reorganisation of Community Governance order for Wiltshire was done back in 2016 operative 2017 and there was no change to this area.

If the boundary needs amending we will need an instruction from the LGBCE to do it.

I hope this helps but please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Kind regards,

**David Pratt**

Customer Service Adviser, PSMA Helpdesk



Adanac Drive, Southampton, United Kingdom, SO16 0AS

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----- Original Message -----

**From:** Customer Services;

**Received:** Tue Feb 11 2020 12:19:09 GMT+0000 (Greenwich Mean Time)

**To:** Kieran Elliott;

**Subject:** CS-128170-R0F9C8 RE: Live Contact Us Webform - Customer Services - Can't find your answer? - 2/10/2020 2:07:55 PM TT:001390514

Hello Kieran,

Thank you for contacting Ordnance Survey about the position of the Parish boundary for Sunnyhill Lane, Wilcot.

I have forwarded your correspondence through to our technical team for investigation. I shall let you know by 20th February as to the course of our actions.

If I can be of any further assistance in the meantime, please let me know.

Kind regards,

**David Pratt**

Customer Service Adviser, PSMA Helpdesk



Adanac Drive, Southampton, United Kingdom, SO16 0AS

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Our values are adventurous, incisive, restless and true

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Kieran Elliott;

**Received:** Mon Feb 10 2020 14:08:01 GMT+0000 (Greenwich Mean Time)

**To:** Customer Services;

**Subject:** Live Contact Us Webform - Customer Services - Can't find your answer? - 2/10/2020 2:07:55 PM

Dear Customer Services,

A Contact Us Webform has been submitted to us via the OS Website, please review the submitted details below:

**Webform Entry Received:**

**Topic :** Other enquiries

**Sub-Topic :** Can't find your answer?

**First Name :** Kieran

**Surname :** Elliott

**Email Address :** [kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk)

**Phone Number :** 01225 718504

**Enquiry Details :** I have been asked to enquire about a parish boundary which I don't know is an error, but which the parish insists is an error.

It is regarding the Sunnyhill Lane area of the parish of Wilcot in Wiltshire. A number of properties' boundaries are shown to be split by the parish boundary with Pewsey. They have stated the following: "By checking my electoral register and viewing the site, we have discovered that all of those properties - entire caravan park plus cottages - are already in Oare, and none in Pewsey, as we had been led to believe in error by the boundary shown on the map. The online map at the ONS is even more inaccurate, but clearer, than the Wiltshire Council definitive, as the ONS map shows the last house (Foxglove) to be entirely in Pewsey, whereas we are assured by the owner of that property that it is only her extension that is half in Oare and half in Pewsey; when this was built by her grandfather, he had to seek permission from both parish councils.

So it appears to the Parish Council that it is the maps that need amending!"

I would certainly appreciate if the situation could be clarified - we are conducting a community governance review, and if the area is not all within Wilcot we can make an order to change it.

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Thank you for your cooperation.

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**CGR meeting – Chairman’s Office, County Hall, Trowbridge, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 1230-1715**

Kieran Elliott – SDSO

Committee attendance

Chair - Richard Clewer

Ian McLennan

Wilcot, Woodborough, Manningford Parish Session

Ruth Kinderman (Clerk to Wilcot, Manningford and Woodborough)

John Wren (Woodborough)

Richard Netherclift (Manningford)

Paul Oatway (Pewsey Vale)

Jerry Kunkler (Pewsey)

Pewsey Session

Peter Deck (Pewsey)

Ann Hogg (Pewsey)

Paul Oatway (Pewsey Vale)

Jerry Kunkler (Pewsey)

Pewsey Unitary Session

Paul Oatway (Pewsey Vale)

Jerry Kunkler (Pewsey)

Calne Unitary Session

Tom Rounds (Calne North)

Tony Trotman (Calne Chilvester and Abberd)

Calne Without Session

Sarah Glen (Clerk to Calne Without)

Jim Cook (Calne Without)

Keith Robbins (Calne Without)

Derry Hill Petitioners Session

Alan Malpas

Keith Robbins

Ioan Rees

Melksham Unitary Session

Pat Aves (Melksham North)

Jon Hubbard (Melksham South)

Nick Holder (Melksham Without South)

**Wilcot (and Huish), Manningford, Woodborough**

Legal Status of Wilcot and Huish needs to be resolved.

Parish thought and would like confirmed that Wilcot, Huish and Oare be one parish, with no wards and 9 councillors – prevents difficult governance of finding people to stand in individual wards, reflects operation of parish as single area with several communities

Sunnyhill lane, properties are registered as being in Oare, residents should be asked but would recommend it in Oare.

Manningford and Woodborough in agreement with The Garden Centre (which is area of several businesses) should be in Woodborough – separated by long distance from Manningford.

Sharcott – having reviewed area parish agree there is no need for a change, the geography and numbers are acceptable.

### **Pewsey**

Parish is content with present external boundary situation, could accept few houses in Sunnyhill moving into Oare, but consultation is needed. Would object to any movement of Sharcott boundary. Would remove most of Manningford abbot.

Discussion of number of cllrs in Pewsey if ward removed. 21 is 5 more than any other non warded parish. 2 elections in 20 years with the wards. Pewsey state no vacancies, and it works well for community as few committees, a lot more work on individual councillors, very active parish so 2 remains appropriate. Warding not necessary as arbitrary and confusing.

### **Unitary**

Full merger of Wilcot and Huish makes sense, was thought to be the case and Huish is very small (35 electors). Sunnyhill lane geographically sits with Oare.

Dewarding Pewsey makes sense, no community split to justify it. Would await to see if consultation sees comments about council numbers.

### **Calne Unitary**

Concerns around what would happen to remainder of Calne without if new parish created – large enough for viability at 1000+, but disparate communities. Derry Hill is likely to get larger, more different to rest of parish, could be an argument to separate it out now, but complex situation considering requests of Calne Town, and whether elements of Without also look to other parishes

### **Calne Without**

Confirmed all in parish will be consulted on merger.

Parish ward proposal to remove anomalous boundary in place before development, causes confusion

New parish – council voted and by majority does not accept arguments mean new parish is necessary. Superficially attractive, but the impact on the rest of the parish would be damaging – parish would lose its coherence, ability to distribute as much funding to more rural areas, the council currently meets in Derry Hill and lacks facilities in other areas. Feels that the area is well represented at present. Calne without is rural with the exception of Derry Hill. Accept new parish would be coherent community, but could consider other alternatives like a specific ward for the area rather than new parish. Area still a mix of urban and rural, Pewsham area dominated by Derry Hill as a result.

### **Petitioners**

Overwhelming public support from residents of the area, including those from outlying areas for the proposed parish not just Derry Hill – parish should reflect distinctiveness of communities, and Derry Hill has a unique identity in a way Calne Without does not, with the town of Calne separating it from Calstone and Stockley. Has grown significantly in last 40 years, no longer has same identity as other villages which used to serve the Bowood estate. Unfair to say the parish council is not working at present, but it is not as representative of community as it could be, can be outvoted – change in number would not address distinctive nature of community. Feel that Calne Without is sustainable on its own without Derry Hill, it would remain a large parish and more coherently rural. Not speaking for rest of parish as not representing them, but options have been raised that the other areas could join with other parishes if appropriate – strong

communities at lower Compton and calstone, which don't look to Derry Hill. Old derry hill in Pewsham links it to Derry Hill. West ward, derry hill, was the only contested ward in 2017.

**Melksham Unitary**

Edge of town road key, new development incoming fits within the town – including the new ward area and non warded part at sandridge common, agreed by town and parish.

Pro merge argument about infill development meaning Bowerhill no longer a separate community in the same way – while distinct and with the A365 as a boundary, there is no longer green space, the lines are blurred. Anti-merger argument that Bowerhill not the only area, Berryhill and other areas included which are not blurred.

Governance of parish acknowledged as good, only 2 elected councillors out of 13, question of governance, but effective governance possible without this.

Question of if there is larger community which can be adequately represented by one council, looking after the various smaller communities. Melksham Without already represents multiple communities under its wider identity. Suggested there might be a case for Bowerhill to be its own parish, although no parties had suggested this to date.

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CGR meeting – Salisbury TEN, Salt Lane, Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019, 3pm

Lisa Moore – DSO

CLLr attendance:

Chair - Richard Clewer - RC

Sven Hocking - SH

Brian Dalton - BD

Ian McLennan - IMc

Jose Green - JG

Mary Douglas - MD

3.00 – 4.00pm – Unitary Members to discuss the two proposals - Netherhampton Parish to transfer to Salisbury City

RC – We are here to look at potential Parish boundary changes, first in a meeting with cllrs and then with the affected parishes, in separate sessions.

#### Intro

This is a Pre- pre-consultation. Which would be followed by a pre-consultation. The Boundary Review Committee (BRC) at WC would use these meetings to form its proposals. We want to make sure we are looking at all possible options.

Every person living in an affected area would be written to, and in the cases where we would be merging parishes we would write to everyone in both parishes.

The recommendation of the BRC will go to Full Council.

#### Scheme Info - RC

This scheme is Netherhampton

There is a new housing development which is planned for the edge of Harnham, in the Netherhampton Area. That development is to be considered by Strategic Planning next week. The scheme we are looking at includes the land where this development is proposed and asks whether it should be moved to Salisbury City.

The Boundary Commission has put forward a slightly different boundary area than us. What are your views as to whether it becomes part of the city?

Questions/comments:

BD – I thought they had moved their line more east? There are a couple of properties opposite the garden centre, are those included?

RC – Yes the map shows they are.

BD – I think for ease it should be part of the city.

There is a different amount of council tax.

RC - We are not allowed to consider that aspect.

SH – I agree, it makes things easier, they should be co-terminus across the board. We all agreed that it was a sensible layout and to let the parish boundaries reflect that as well.

RC – Are there any problems with the idea? Maybe if Planning does not get approved. I expect that an inspector would approve it because we don't have a 5 year land supply.

BD – That Strategic Planning meeting should be held in Salisbury. The inspector should rule on the land first. That aside, the co-terminosity – the PC boundaries should align with the WC boundaries.

BD – Harnham hill does come within Harnham West Ward.

JG - There are approximately six houses at Shaftesbury drove.

RC - The unitary divisions are already fixed, this is about Parish boundaries.

JG – The option is that Quidhampton village will go into Quidhampton and so be in the Wilton area?

RC - That one is for consideration next year.

The line between Netherhampton and Harnham West, in essence it's the area proposed for new housing.

JG – I have not received any complaints with this suggestion. I think this neatens it by following the drove.

RC – They have taken the line further slightly south.

MD – There are no problems that I know of.

RC – The best I can do with the Strategic Planning is to get it live streamed.  
I don't like the fact we are transferring a bunch of open fields, but that is where the BC have drawn the line.

IMc – It is in the Core Strategy for development.

SH – Now we have the new Salisbury Milford Division, that has been split in to 2 wards.

RC – I asked BC, they didn't come up with an answer, they said there would be 2 cllrs.

I suggest we would look to adjust it once the houses were built.

BD – that ward will be well over the 10% and will come back to haunt the council in years to come.

RC – I have written to the BC about the Millford figures to ask if they had got it right.

SH – I will write to them as well. Get Kieran to give me the contact email.

**Action: Kieran to provide email contact for SH to comment**

4 – 4.30pm – Netherhampton Parish Views

James Craddock (JC)– Netherhampton PC

RC gave the intro as above, adding that WC had been through a review of divisions and now had a final version which could not be changed. The BC had opened up the review of parish boundaries.

The proposed new housing development should be put in the Harnham division. So now we are looking at whether it should go into Salisbury City or remain in Netherhampton.

This is pre-pre consultation there will be pre consultation in January.  
We will put proposals forward. They will come back in March 2020.  
Full council will consider July/Sep, and they will make a decision.  
It is complicated right now because of the planning application.

JC – We as a parish are concerned that it would appear that the decision on the additional housing has already been made without the full consultation process.  
As a parish, we would not want the burden of that area. But we are surprised and amazed that we are having this conversation and that the planning hasn't actually been granted.

RC – the BC has reached the conclusion it has. When we looked at the boundary review we were required to go to spatial planning to consider the determined sites. There are some sites that are considered as viable sites.

The BC told us to go to our Spatial Planning team and come up with the best estimates we could. They wanted to know what it was thought would be there in 2024 and plan the boundaries around that. The next most developable site after this would be along Britford Rd. Strategic Planning could say no next week, however if that was the case, then the inspector could overturn that based on there not being a current housing stock.

IMc – He explained the situation that previously occurred with Laverstock area. All of Longhedge is now being developed.

JC – I thought the requirements had changed?

RC - They have but we still now need to find housing around Salisbury and one reason for that, was because Churchfields was deemed unsuitable.

JC – No one disregards the fact that new homes had to be built somewhere. There is huge apathy of infrastructure here.

RC – There was a statement that says the infrastructure could be put in place and there would be enough money.

JC – the other issue is that there is a junction of 4 roads at one end and a T junction with light at the other with a sharp corner at the middle. The works to the gyratory with traffic lights you cannot change is irrelevant.

RC – there is an argument to be made. Highways is the only argument that can be made. But in planning terms that may be a losing argument.

RC – We will ask Highways for a briefing on the bid that has gone in for the Gyratory.

**Action – RC to find out if we can have details – to share with PC**

JC – there is talk that there are plans to turn the A3094 into a trunk road would that relieve the responsibility from the WC?

RC – The 6 dwellings along Shaftesbury drove, are part of Netherhampton in Planning Terms.

JC – I was not aware of that.

RC - What would the PCs view be on the development area being included in Salisbury City?

JC – I think that the parish would not want that in the parish. The responsibilities would be quite large.

RC – 1400 people once complete, which would change the nature of your parish.

JC – The PC is made up of part time volunteers. An increase of people in the community would impact on their role.

RC – There would be CIL money that comes with these houses, if the boundary changes were made, that money would not come to you.

JC – I am not able to say either way.

RC – Salisbury CC have not requested this I have asked for it to be looked at.

JC – That is not really a factor.

JC – It would change the rural nature of the PC and therefore not something the current Parish would want.

JC – it would be interesting to see the Highways presentation on what is proposed. The other small dev in Harnham East which was given approval, in front of Bookers, as far as I can see has changed. It was 62 houses and now its 82. There was Graham Water Pond, part of the scheme and is now someone's garden.

IMc – No, I believe it was always for 82.

RC – I am going to ask the director of Planning ??? – Is he asking for the highways plans?

Outcome – Netherhampton PC does not want the area of newly proposed housing to become part of its area. It would be happy for it to move to the Salisbury City area.

4.30 – 5.00pm – Salisbury City Views

John Farquhar (JF)

Steven Berry (SB)

RC – Intro given, explaining the reasons why WC were now considering the Parish boundaries, to bring them in line with Unitary boundaries.

Recommendations would be consulted on with any residents involved.

It then comes back to the committee who makes recommendations to F Council.

Precept is not a factor – we cannot consider that in any way.

A map was shown indicating the site of proposed development.

What does SCC feel about this?

Salisbury City Council comments:

JF – It seems straight forward that this estate will become a suburb of Salisbury. My concern is the infrastructure around it and the plans do not address my concerns for the infrastructure.



The residents that end up on the new estate will have to access Salisbury City centre and there isn't the infrastructure to do that.

There will also be increased traffic and this will impact on Exeter St roundabout.

There should be an underpass included to allow the people to cross the busy road.

I understand that Netherhampton don't particularly want it as would overwhelm them and change their rural nature.

Naturally forms part of the city infrastructure.

RC - Any reason not to do it? There are a number of houses on the Shaftesbury drove which are included.

JF – I don't think this will be the last estate that will be built in this direction. I see the housing development expanding on this side of the city. I think it really is straight forward.

SB - Its been creeping this way, first we had the Wellworthy estate. Then the business park that has another 82 homes. Its ridiculous for the 640 to be in Netherhampton.

RC – there is no guarantee that they will get approval. But by completion it may be up to 2000 people.

SB – There is the precept.

RC – I have proposed this from the Boundary Review Committee, so it hasn't been put forward from the SCC.

JF – We will have to cater for all of these people so there is no objection to the precept.

SB – It is so logical. At the other end of my ward, there was Lywood close.

Outcome – SCC support the move of this development site along with the houses on Shafetsbury Drove being moved in to the Salisbury City boundary.

Closed at 4.45

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**CGR meeting – Kennet Room, County Hall, Tuesday 10th December 2019**

Kieran Elliott – SDSO  
Angela Gale – Programme Office

Committee attendance

Chair - Richard Clewer  
Ian McLennan  
Jonathon Seed  
Christopher Newbury

Melksham Town

Linda Roberts (Clerk)  
Adrien Westbrook  
Pat Aves  
Jon Hubbard

Melksham Without Session

Teresa Strange (Clerk)  
Richard Wood  
John Glover  
Alan Baines

Seend Session

Sue Bond  
Georgina Baird  
Pamela Aikerman

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**Melksham Town**

Huge development in recent years, with a lot more still to come. Previous process brought new estates to east of town into the town, and even at that time more development was incoming. Tinkering with boundaries mean the process will happen over and over again, since without parish also recognises new development should be brought into the town. Town argues that outlying areas use the town services and the community as a whole is more appropriately served with one council, not the current boundary which does make sense on the ground, particularly around the very large settlement at Bowerhill – need to combine the areas to be able to properly plan for the future. Gap no longer there.

Shaw and Whitley slightly different, have their own issues and if they wanted to be separate that could make sense, but town would argue the whole area is still one community. Beanacre is less distinct than shaw and whitley. Communities exist within towns not just rural areas, so acceptable to combine multiple communities into one.

Parish works well, but town believes wider community better served by one council. Town also has contested elections which parish generally does not.

**Melksham Without**

Parish has positive attitude to governance, and proposes new development areas go into the town as it accepted these have different interests and identity than the rest of the parish. Parish represents 5 villages, bowerhill the largest, and those villages prefer the status quo. Strong communities spirit in each, they cross fund and support each other, on their own they would not be as effective, and with the town they would be subsumed. Bowerhill not rural but there is still a

buffer, it has a village hall, its own shops etc. Shaw and Whitley do have their own services as well.

Picnic area proposal – boundary is ill defined, follows a hedgerow that no longer exists, rest follows canal. Parish feels the proposal meets defined features on the ground. New division will be devised ab, with Seend, makes no sense for it to be away from Melksham as it was created and maintained by Melksham without, claims that Seend residents do not use it like Melksham ones do.

**Seend**

No reason for change – 5km of canal runs through parish, it is a rural parish and we are considering including the picnic area in the neighbourhood plan, people in Seend Cleve use it as do others in Seend as there is a footbridge, without can support it even if in Seend parish, believe we gave grants and make small annual contribution.

Giles Wood included, and it is a private woodland set up by Seend resident with permissive path, owner is very opposed to any transfer

**1400-1500 – Unitary councillors (Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Peter Fuller, Cllr Steve Oldrieve, Cllr Stuart Palmen and Cllr Ian McLennan)**

- Asking the question – does it make sense for the boundary between these two settlements?
- Pre-pre-consultation for view on local picture and why you have put your own ideas forward
  
- Any urban area where you have new development on edge of town, we should consider bringing that in to urban area and away from villages
- Urban redevelopment in principle
- It is sensible that this should be taken into Trowbridge
- Only natural with such a population increase
- Protection of West Ashton and the nature of the village is important
  
- Hilperton proposals from Trowbridge Town Council
- The Hilperton gap is allocated housing
- Likely the part that is proposed to move into Trowbridge would be built on first
- Residential area at the top of Wyke Road – four residential properties
  
- South east proposal
- More logical settlement boundary rather than along the development
- There will be several hurdles regarding Boundary Commission in implementing this – by no means a viable ward
- Long term, would the boundary clearly set the end of Trowbridge?
  
- North Bradley
- Potentially one property involved
- There will be several hurdles regarding Boundary Commission in implementing this – by no means a viable ward
- There would most likely be strong resistance to development there
- The line needs to leave some space for further development, rather than zig zagging along back gardens
  
- Southwick – proposal from Trowbridge Town Council
- Weren't going to be enough houses by 2021 – not deliverable in that space of time
  
- Proposal from Southwick
- Properties in Trowbridge be moved into Southwick – emerging NDP would be undermined
- Agreement at meeting that proposal is not logical
  
- West Ashton - final two proposals

- Any strategic sense in allowing North Bradley and West Ashton to develop into a larger village?
- No – and there is a worry that over time it would become a large ward on the edge of Trowbridge
- When it comes to response precept is not a relevant argument. Relevant would include what do public think, effective, cohesive governance and community cohesion

**1500-1530 – Trowbridge Town (Cllr Andrew Bryant, Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Peter Fuller, Cllr Steve Oldrieve, Cllr Stuart Palmen, Cllr Ian McLennan, Bob Bryce and Lance Allen)**

- Any urban area where you have new development on edge of town, we should consider bringing that in to urban area and away from villages
- In principle this is agreed with
- We do not support wholesale merger of parishes and in particular into larger settlements e.g. towns and cities
- Hilperton proposal
- An application already in for part of that site and whole site is allocated housing
- Residential area on top of Wyke Road – part of Trowbridge until 1991
- Timescales for deliveries were not seen as viable for having enough people in
- There will be several hurdles regarding Boundary Commission in implementing this – by no means a viable ward
- Area to south east/Ashton Park development
- We think the appropriate boundary is the field boundary
- We believe the whole of the West Ashton development should be part of Trowbridge
- This would not be delivered in adequate timescale
- Why not use the outer road? We haven't gone beyond the development boundary and Town Council would be opposed to any further development
- There will be several hurdles regarding Boundary Commission in implementing this – by no means a viable ward
- It would create a ward of North Bradley in 2021 because it was in a different area of Wiltshire than North Bradley
- Parts of the Business Park may become residential developments at some point
- Southwick
- The line we have followed is the proposed line of the access road and the area that would be developed
- Some concerns that this site is least likely to come forward for development

- If the council considers this site is less worthy of any change we would not support it
- Southwick proposal to move it into Trowbridge – is this feasible?
- Not in accordance with the required criteria in any sense
- West Ashton
- We do not consider that to be a good idea. The reasons as addressed at the time that it was implemented remain
- We do not think their reasoning is just
- We need to consider the implications of the Boundary Commission and make contact prior to this for guidance

**1530-1600 – Hilperton (Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Ernie Clark, Pam Turner)**

- Any urban area where you have new development on edge of town, we should consider bringing that in to urban area and away from villages
- Parish Council has never discussed this
- Hilperton proposal
- Development has not progressed at the rate expected
- One of the landowners there are looking to sell
- Confusion about who will be Parish Council member there
- Hilperton does not need the number of houses that they have, however, we feel like they are basically land grabbing
- The only direct access into Trowbridge is a few footpaths. They will be looking out to Hilperton rather than Trowbridge. As it is it feels more in Hilperton
- What has change since the council voted that it would stay in Hilperton?
- The people can decide if they feel a part of Trowbridge or a part of Hilperton – community convenience
- There will be several hurdles regarding Boundary Commission in implementing this – by no means a viable ward
- The existing houses – where do they feel that they live. Approached a few years ago and they said they felt a part of Hilperton
- Election numbers – if numbers were brought into Hilperton it would still eave us in parameters of Electoral Commission
- We do not know that it had been part of Trowbridge in 1991 as suggested by Trowbridge Town Council
- Neighbourhood Plan – if it was still in Hilperton we can have some bearing on what the prospective development will be, especially considering it will face out onto Hilperton
- Asked to consider possibly of land to the east to be brought back into Hilperton if Trowbridge’s proposal were to be adopted

**1530-1630 – North Bradley, Southwick and West Ashton (Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Horace Prickett, John Eaton and XXXX)**

- Any area where you have new development on edge of town, we should consider bringing that in to urban area and away from villages
- We believe it should remain in the parish. Because the expansion of Trowbridge is too great
- In Southwick we would become more akin to a settlement of Trowbridge rather than a village
- 100% of respondents said they want to remain a village
  
- How would large clumps of urban housing fit in with villages?
- We already have these clumps around the villages
  
- North Bradley view is that the Neighbourhood Plan is being completed and confirmed. It is a legal document. What happens to this if it goes the other way?
- At the moment we feel able to take in these developments and do not feel overwhelmed. But in the future this position may be reconsidered as other developments happen
- We can use SIL money for our residents, infrastructure etc.
  
- As of now, the developments could be years away and now it feels like a land grab/cash grab. That is the general feeling in the wards
  
- Area to the south east/Ashton Park development
- The land that Trowbridge want will not be built for several years and it feels very premature to ask now
- There will be several hurdles regarding Boundary Commission in implementing this – by no means a viable ward
  
  
- North Bradley
- Same logic applies – none of this should go to Trowbridge
  
  
- Southwick
- We don't want the movement to go any further – coalescence
- Southwick Country Park – we do not want this to be considered as future development – we believe the proposal would open this possibility
- Our residents want a clear division – a clear gap – we don't want infill
- We want a green gap – that has been considered in Neighbourhood Plan – even with a development



- Southwick Parish Council proposal
  - Based on finding of historical site. Roman road extends to Church Lane and a Roman settlement in Court Road
  - We have consulted an expert who has put this forward
  - How does this effect the people in Southwick?
  - There was a call from a large part of residents to put this forward
  - A lot of the residents have said they would rather be part of Southwick – community cohesion
  - Southwick Country Park – building down to stream – they are worried about the impact on the park itself
- 
- West Ashton
  - They are not in favour of building going up there, because it extends to Ashton Park development
  - The original decision was based on it being industrial land, now it is residential. The benefits are no longer the same. Why is it happening?
  - The situation is not as was proposed
  - They want the decision reversed
- 
- Three parishes all involved here. We all agree with each others point of view. As a group we feel the whole thing is wrong
  - We have had no negotiation with Trowbridge. Maybe at the next stage we can do this

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**CGR meeting – Monkton Park Chippenham, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

Kieran Elliott – SDSO

Committee attendance

Chair - Richard Clewer

Ian McLennan

Langley Burrell Without, Kington St Michael Session

Vivian Vines (Clerk)

Chippenham Without Session

Vivian Vines (Clerk)

Howard Ham

Steven Eades

Yatton Keynell Session

Ian Plowman (Clerk)

Chippenham Town Session

Nick Rees, Director of Resources

Andy Conroy, Planning Officer

Chippenham Unitary Session

Ross Henning (Lowden and Rowden)

Ben Anderson (Corsham Without and Box Hill)

**Chippenham Town**

New and to be built areas now within urban Unitary divisions are extensions to the town, use the facilities, form part of the natural boundary of the urban settlement, and should be included with the town boundary.

Inclusion of Rugby Club area arose from single councillor suggestion, it is used mostly by Chippenham residents, is adjacent to the town boundary. Not currently accessible from the A350 directly from the town.

**Langley Burrell Without**

The parish accepts that the new development areas within the Unitary divisions fit appropriately with the town rather than the parish.

**Kington St Michael**

Cedar lodge is in the conservation area covering Chippenham Without, everyone though it was already a part of that parish, so likely a mistake it is not, support the proposal

**Chippenham Without**

Reason for Town proposal around rugby club not compelling – consultation communication issues not a valid criteria. Parish currently meet in location in the town, so not a major concern for town residents to come to rugby club in another parish. A350 is a strategic boundary for development and serves as an appropriate boundary for town and parish. Parish preparing neighbourhood plan, seeking to preserve parish area as green lung for town, rugby club part of the recreational offering.

Cedar lodge proposal, every other property on that lane is in the parish, it is an anomaly the lodge is not, it has relationship with area to south not Kington st Michael. Current resident is the parish councillor, supports the move.

Parish objects to Yatton Keynell proposal – no reason has been given, no residents and golf range part of the recreational offering of Chippenham Without. YK had approached about a larger area down to the historic sign, but not about this area

#### **Yatton Keynell**

Initial proposal to move boundary to longstone, which is viewed by YK as an historic monument and it is maintained by YK and not Chippenham Without. 3 commercial proposal in new area requested, on the boundary and look more to YK than Chippenham Without, it is YK which has most interest in planning matters in that area

#### **Unitary**

Support of coterminous unitary and parish boundary, wards as proposed do not make sense otherwise, natural progression of urban area

Rugby club – need more info on why change is proposed

#### **Melksham Unitary**

Edge of town road key, new development incoming fits within the town – including the new ward area and non warded part at sandridge common, agreed by town and parish.

Pro merge argument about infill development meaning Bowerhill no longer a separate community in the same way – while distinct and with the A365 as a boundary, there is no longer green space, the lines are blurred. Anti-merger argument that Bowerhill not the only area, Berryhill and other areas included which are not blurred.

Governance of parish acknowledged as good, only 2 elected councillors out of 13, question of governance, but effective governance possible without this.

Question of if there is larger community which can be adequately represented by one council, looking after the various smaller communities. Melksham Without already represents multiple communities under its wider identity. Suggested there might be a case for Bowerhill to be its own parish, although no parties had suggested this to date.

**Pre-Consultation meeting for Community Governance Review. County Hall, Trowbridge 6.00pm start, 20.01.20**

Present representing Wiltshire Council: Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Ian McLennan

Kieran Elliott, Craig Player

Members of public (including parish council members) – circa 6

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Community Governance Review

RC went through presentation, setting out statutory criteria, details of submitted schemes, timetable for review, that some schemes if approved require consent of the LGBCE as they change wards/divisions adjusted during the electoral review of Wiltshire council.

Questions and Comments

Insufficient notice for meeting – delay in sending out letters meant very time to attend

Improved communication required – contact with parish councils directly about meetings in future

Scheme Comments

Old farm recommended to be retained in West Ashton in last review, Full Council overturned.

Parish neighbourhood plans near completion, moving ashton park areas would have significant impact.

Town council proposals premature as development has not begun, when there is developed area possibly reasonable

Expansion of urban area not welcomed by parishes.

Electoral Divisions not relevant

Town council proposal protects parishes by ensuring built up areas are in town, creating separation with parishes – new development areas clearly part of urban expansion

Questions whether Community Infrastructure Levy is a factor that can be considered.

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**Pre-Consultation meeting for Community Governance Review. Bowerhill Village Hall 23.01.20  
6pm- 7:20pm**

Present representing Wiltshire Council: Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Ian Gibbons and Libby Johnstone.

Present as a local member: Cllr Jonathon Seed and Cllr Phil Alford

Members of the public present (including parish council members): 41

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Cllr Richard Clewer opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Cllr Clewer explained how the council had come to undertake a Community Governance Review (CGR) as a requirement following determination of the Wiltshire unitary boundaries by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

It was explained the council was focussing on three significant reviews first, of which the Melksham area was one. The public were advised the Electoral Review Committee (the 'Committee') of Wiltshire Councillors was undertaking a pre-consultation survey with residents to identify views about community governance, before forming recommendations for formal consultation and determination by the Full Council. It was explained the timescale for CGRs was tight since they needed to be completed ahead of the 2021 election. A consultation form was now available online and in hard copy.

Cllr Clewer explained the council had put forward two schemes and outlined these on a map:

- a) Scheme 5 and 9, Hunters Wood area into Melksham Town parish.
- b) Scheme 6 and 10, Land north of Sandridge Common into Melksham Town parish.

The following alternative schemes suggested by other groups, councils, or individuals were also shown:

- c) Scheme 11 – Picnic area and Giles Wood from Seend to Melksham Without parish.
- d) Scheme 24a – Proposed merger of Melksham Town and Melksham Without parishes to form a new parish. 24b combining existing councils and creating a new Town Council and Shaw and Whitley Parish Council. 24c – combining existing councils except Whitley, Shaw and Beanacre. 24d - combining existing councils except Whitley, Shaw, Beanacre and Blackmore.
- e) Scheme 83 – Reduction of Seend Parish Council from 11 to 9 councillors.

The public were advised information on the schemes was available online and the committee would gather responses and then make recommendations to consult on, and then review again if appropriate. It was highlighted the Committee members had no preference for schemes, and were a cross-party meeting that met publicly.

Cllr Clewer invited comments and questions from the floor

Feedback on the consultation process and procedural matters included:

- A letter had been received from residents about the CGR however it did not list schemes for the Melksham area;
- Residents of Hornchurch Road had not received letters;
- Information about the CGRs was difficult to find on the website;

- The meeting to raise awareness of the CGR had been poorly advertised, parish councils had not been informed, nor had the Melksham News, and it had not been mentioned at the Area Board;
- The meeting time was too early in the evening;
- The information about CGRs on the website was detailed and difficult to understand;
- The owner of Seend Park Farm had not received a letter informing of the CGR;
- There had been insufficient publicity of the ability for individuals to submit proposals for CGRs;
- Clarity was sought on whether councillors could participate on the Committee or at Full Council, having previously expressed a view on the proposed schemes;
- Clarity was sought as to whether consultation responses would be available for public inspection online;
- Some members of the public prefer to submit petitions or letters in response;
- Clarity was sought as to whether natural boundaries, such as a river or road, were relevant to a CGR.

The following information was provided in response from Cllr Clewer and Ian Gibbons:

- Letters had been sent without details of the Melksham schemes as an administrative error and replacement letters were to be re-sent to all residents;
- Only residents in Melksham and Melksham Without would receive letters;
- There had been an announcement at all Area Boards, and also press releases, encouraging residents to submit CGR proposals;
- A second pre-consultation meeting was planned for Melksham on 14 February 2020;
- Guidance would be issued to councillors about pre-determination and lawyers would attend committee meetings to ensure due process was followed. Councillors were not automatically disqualified in voting on a matter because they had previously expressed a view;
- Proposals for CGRs would be discussed at public Committee meetings, the dates of the Committee meetings were published under the Council and Democracy section of the council's website;
- All schemes proposed would be considered by Committee and consulted on;
- Letters and petitions about proposed schemes would be accepted as consultation responses;
- Natural boundaries did not automatically determine parish boundaries;
- The committee would read every representation received and approach decision making with an open mind.

Feedback on the proposed schemes included:

- Less weight should be given to proposals that had been put forward by only one local resident, compared to schemes with larger support;
- The formation of a new council in place of Melksham Town and Melksham Without councils could make a powerful council, with an urban agenda. It could also be costly to dissolve the existing councils and establish a new one;
- Some residents would prefer none of the schemes proposed, and would like no-change.
- Clarity was need as to what factors were given weight in a CGR;
- Clarity was sought as to whether amendments to the proposed schemes would be accepted;
- Bowerhill area was semi-rural and did not belong in a parish arrangement with the town;



- Melksham Without Parish Council opposed proposals to merge with the Town Council, as Melksham Without is semi-rural and not considered part of the town. However, the proposal about Hunter's Wood was accepted;
- Snow Lane Clinic was in Melksham Without Parish, however should be in Melksham Town Parish;
- Schemes were premature and should wait until an upgrade to the road network was planned;
- It was important the canal area in Seend be maintained for recreation;
- A merged Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish would not deliver effective local government.

The following information was provided in response from Cllr Clewer and Ian Gibbons:

- All schemes put forward had to be considered, however the committee would consider whether they had the support of the parish and town council, and the strength of local feeling as a relevant consideration;
- Those not wanting any change in community governance arrangements should also feed this back as part of the consultation;
- Effective and convenient local government, and community cohesion, were key factors in a CGR and precept issues were not allowed to come into the process;
- Amendments to proposed schemes would be considered and those minded to suggest this should complete the consultation;
- Schemes to merge Melksham Town and Melksham Without Council and form a new council would not necessarily reduce the number of councillors. The committee could make a recommendation on the number of councillors.

Actions agreed:

- It would be checked that letters to Hornchurch Road had been sent;
- Parish councils would be included in future communication about meetings;
- The PowerPoint slides from all CGR pre-consultation meetings would be available on the website;
- Future meetings as part of the consultation would either meet later or at varying times of day to assist the public in attending;
- Future meetings and information would be more actively promoted at Area Boards, in the local press and to parish councils;
- Guidance on the factors that were relevant to a CGR (Quick Reference Guide) would be published on the council's website;
- The guidance on councillors and pre-determination on CGRs would be made publicly available;
- Consultation responses to be available online in as much detail as reasonably practical;
- The CGR area of the website to be reviewed and considered where improvements could be made;
- The minutes of this meeting would be publicly available.

In closing the meeting, Cllr Clewer encouraged local residents to complete the online consultation and hard copy forms were provided.

The officer who has produced these notes is Libby Johnstone of Democratic Services ([libby.johnstone@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:libby.johnstone@wiltshire.gov.uk) 01225 718214).

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**Pre-Consultation meeting for Community Governance Review. Lansdowne Hall 5/2/20 5.30pm start**

Present representing Wiltshire Council: Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ian McLennan

Kieran Elliott, Angela Gale, Craig Player

Members of public (including parish council members) – circa 50-60

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**Community Governance Review – Calne 05 February 2020**

1. CGR Basics

- Any decision must take into account community interests and cohesion and effective and convenient local government
- Wiltshire Council makes the decision and will receive recommendations from the Electoral Review Committee

2. Existing parish/wards

- Anything that may change a boundary or will cause a warding issue will have to be taken to the Electoral Boundary Commission, who may or may not refuse

3. Calne Without – Scheme 29 – CWPC proposal – amended boundary between Pewsham and West Wards

4. Derry Hill and Studley – proposed new parish at Derry Hill and Studley – no wards, nine councillors

5. CGR Timeline

6. Questions and Comments

- Map of Derry Hill & Studley as proposed – is there a map of those remaining – specifically no but Cllr Clewer indicated where this lies on the map
- Scrappy geography as a result of creating new parish – effectiveness derives from geographic cohesivity – it will create a difficulty in managing parish business
- One more step needs to be taken – areas on the outer of the map will look outwards – these little hamlets have more interest in smaller parishes on outskirts – consider four areas – Heddington, Blackton and Kelston, Lower Compton, Rutford and Fishersbrook
- Studley and Derry Hill – would leave Calne Without without a village hall, without a school – very little left of real use – nowhere within the parish to hold a meeting

- How many people who live in north come to use the village hall or the school – this would need to be gathered via evidence
- Petitioner – Alan Malpass – statement – significant increase in size of these two communities – no changes to size of parishes since then – should reflect distinctive, recognisable communities which is evident here – the size of the community is only set to increase, and such so will its feeling of a separate identity – revised status as a large village - very clear demonstrated support for this within the community of Studley and Derry Hill – also does not retract from the remainder of Calne Without
- Governance is not actually defined and a range of interpretations exist – I think the governance arrangements are adequate, and would continue to be in Calne Without too – what happens to the rest of Calne Without – no reason to think it would not thrive – passionate, competent councillors - governance should not be an issue for such a big parish
- Do not get a vote in my own village at the moment and with the changes this would change – a village I have lived in for 40 years – brilliant idea, gives me a voice – over past 50 years Derry Hill has increased in size enormously and in the next 50 years I can see this happening further
- Understand why residents want to make a cohesive area for themselves – Fishers Brook – worry that being cast adrift like that will see us at the bottom of the list of priorities
- “Stockade” – island mentality – historically Studley and Derry Hill have been part of something bigger
- Practicalities of the parish council operations – decision making process does not include our voice in Studley and Derry Hill – decisions can be taken on issues that affect us by councillors that don’t represent us - planning applications – parish councils are consultees, their views are not definitive
- Calne Without – presumably we have to consult with other parish councils and ask them to accept the areas that were proposed to be moved earlier in the meeting (Heddington, Blackton and Kelston, Lower Compton, Rutford and Fishersbrook) - Cllr Clewer states that this would have to be a two stage process – we would have to create a new parish this year then next year we would have to consider the rest
- Resident in Derry Hill – it has expanded so much that it does warrant its own parish and Calne Without does seem efficient enough to cope with this change
- Financial impact on the areas (Calne Without and Derry Hill and Studley) – precept is not a factor, but we must consider whether the parish sees themselves as viable
- Consultation – what amount of work are you doing as a Council to investigate the views of the people?

- Fairly strong case for Derry Hill and Studley to be an independent parish – also a view that what would remain is something that would be less cohesive and lack a central point of cohesion
- If we were to go down the two-stage process route – what can we do to support the first stage of the process – Cllr Clewer – views from neighbouring parish would be useful in this instance
- Could we delay this process for a year – Cllr Clewer – this petition needs to be resolved within a year by law
- Live in villages and have seen it expand in many ways – who is against this – the views of those against have been documented at this meeting e.g. inward-looking community, healthier to look outwards
- The effects of this on the whole unit of Calne has been few and far between – there is also a feeling that by creating this new parish – we haven't spoken of the benefits/negatives of this on Calne Without – Cllr Clewer – our responsibility is to listen to the public at this moment in time and make a proposal on that basis
- Pewsham Ward – would be opposed – rural nature of many of the wards – the proposal would give a vastly out of kilter representation for Pewsham residents – it is a very different way of life and different needs
- Both schemes will be considered as a whole – they are two separate issues, but we need to consider them together at this point – resident believes they are two separate issues and need to be considered as such
- Cllr Clewer – would there be viable boundaries for the creation of other parishes if we were to go forward with this – would there be ways of dividing Calne Without into smaller units
- Bigger picture – a lot of the maps don't scale very well – don't know what and where some of the parishes are – it is not clear – so difficult to figure out how the other parishes fit in with proposal
- What would be the outcome if the proposal goes forward – what recourse would the remainder have – through judicial review (this would be if the process was not followed, no other argument)
- Are there any other recent relevant instances in Wiltshire – no there aren't, an even if they were each area is unique in this sense
- For local democracy, splitting Calne Without up into separate parishes – better for governance maybe, as they understand the needs of local people

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**Pre-Consultation meeting for Community Governance Review. Melksham  
Assembly Hall 14.02.20 6pm- 7:15pm**

Present representing Wiltshire Council: Cllr Richard Clewer, Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Jonathon Seed, Ian Gibbons, Angela Gale and Kieran Elliott.

Members of the public present (including parish council members): Circa 60

Cllr Richard Clewer opened the meeting and welcomed those present, and explained the reason for the review, the process, and provided details of all schemes and how to respond to the schemes as well as timescales for pre-consultation, consultation and decision.

Cllr Clewer invited comments and questions from the floor

Scheme comments

**Merger**

Issue about the future of the area not the past, and what is best for community and infrastructure

Most cross community services provided by Wiltshire Council, separate parishes allow for more local focus

New bypass announced which could have impact on new housing areas, interdependency of the two parishes

Local groups receive significant support from Melksham Without parish council, concerns if this would continue within a larger council with an urban focus

Confusion for firms and residents by treating two parishes differently when they are a joined community in many ways such as schools

Parish residents in the north also look to Corsham and other areas for some services, not merely an extension of the town

Bowerhill area in particular has urban feel according to some

Others emphasise village identity of Bowerhill

Ratio of electors to councillors would increase if there was a merger

Uncertain how the area would be warded in a merger, what would happen to staff at the councils

Any new councillors would look after interests of whole area, not just their ward

The parishes don't need to change, can be left as they are.

Shaw and Whitley are rural, not urban like town and larger development to south and east, but it would also be difficult to operate as their own parish

**Scheme 11 – BRAG Picnic area**

Giles Woods should remain in Seend. Should be a buffer for housing

Housing development occurs irrespective of parish boundaries

Amended proposal to only move BRAG picnic area and leave Giles Woods in Seend  
Neighbourhood plan sets out the area as integral part of the parish, should not be altered lightly

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Scheme 1 (Netherhampton) Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
	1 Resident	Amend - I agree with the proposal but would like to see the boundary of the proposed West Harnham area extended slightly further west adjacent to the River Nadder so that the Broken Bridges footpath NHAM1,2 & 4 are included within Salisbury City boundary.	The reason for wanting this footpath to be part of Salisbury is that it is an important link between West Harnham and Lower Bemerton, so it needs to come under the jurisdiction of the Salisbury Parish. Netherhampton Parish has never shown any interest in this footpath and it requires remedial work so that this important link can be maintained.		
	2 Resident	Disagree	Netherhampton is a village, not a City, and as such has different needs and expectations to Salisbury, and so should be managed as an entity in it's own right as has been the case to date. Maybe the City is after the rates money of Netherhampton, which would be to it's further disadvantage.		
	3 Resident	Agree			
	4 Interested Party	Agree	Any proposal to make more effective use of resources and decrease expenditure is to be welcomed.		

Scheme 2 (Langley Burrell 1)/42 (Chippenham 2) Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree /Amend	Reasons: Community Identity	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Resident	Agree			
2	Interested Party	Agree			
3	Interested Party	Agree	For too long houses that have been built on the edges of Chippenham have not been included within the town boundary which causes confusion. All land on which all of the new housing developments are being built should be moved to be included within the town boundary before the houses are constructed and occupied.	Note:Duplicated text	Note:Duplicated text

Scheme 3 (Langley Burrell 2)/43 (Chippenham 3) Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Resident	Agree			
2	Interested Party	Agree			
3	Interested Party	Agree	For too long houses that have been built on the edges of Chippenham have not been included within the town boundary which causes confusion. All land on which all of the new housing developments are being built should be moved to be included within the town boundary before the houses are constructed and occupied.	Duplicated Text	Duplicated Text

Scheme 4 (Lacock)/44 (Chippenham 4) Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments	
Page 428	1	Interested Party	Agree	For too long houses that have been built on the edges of Chippenham have not been included within the town boundary which causes confusion. All land on which all of the new housing developments are being built should be moved to be included within the town boundary before the houses are constructed and occupied.	Duplication	Duplication
	2	Interested Party	Agree			
	3	Resident	Agree			
16	Representative	Amendment	The Parish Council agrees with the proposal for the proposed development area to the SW of Chippenham to be change from being in Lacock Parish to being in Chippenham Town Council area. However, the Parish Council queries why the the proposed development of the Showell Nurseries has also not been included in the Chippenham Town Council area as it is very much part of the overall new development area.		No	
4	Resident	Disagree	Lacock is a unique area being a part of the National Trust and so deserves special attention.	Duplication		

	5 Resident	Disagree	The change will negatively affect house prices and the council tax will go up, with no benefit to the change.	No benefit for the change of boundary	
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	6 Resident	Disagree	I do not believe that the proposals reflect the interests nor identities of the community. The area is largely rural and has more in common with Lacock than it has with the urbanising Chippenham.		Amalgamation of rural parish areas into Chippenham, Melksham and Trowbridge will erode community identity and support. these towns have failed to grow successful hearts to cater for the over-development of surrounding green belt and further centralised power will not well serve the commuter satellites. The towns should concentrate on revitalising/re-use of brownfield development within. The proposals are about cost-effectiveness, not community, and as such will reduce the ability for local parti
	7 Resident	Disagree	We are more aligned with Lacock as we (unlike Chippenham town) are rural and have those interest/activities at heart.		We have 2 holiday lets here tourist may not be interested as they are looking for the countryside rather than a built-up town. Because we are in fact rural,we would like to remain in Lacock No exit please! as we are.
	8 Interested Party	Disagree	Lacock is unique, not only within Wiltshire but in England. It clearly identifies as a village on its own and is physically separated from Chippenham.		

	9 Resident	Disagree	<p>I disagree with the incursion into the historic Parish Boundary. Chippenham has enough challenges in getting its own house in order, and should focus be encouraged to focus on radical rejuvenation of the Town Centre and its brownfield sites instead looking to add additional residences and land from a neighbouring Parish. Remaining part of Lacock Parish will give the new residents a more interesting sense of identity.</p>		
Page 431	10 Resident	Disagree	<p>Rowden Hamlet is surrounded by farmland and is connected by an ancient footpath across the fields directly to Reybridge and Lacock. Whilst aware of the facilities offered by Chippenham, we do not particularly use or benefit from them to the detriment of those offered by Lacock. Both culturally and historically we identify more closely with the farming and rural community than the urbanised area of Chippenham. Consequently our interests are best represented by the rural Parish Council of Lacock.</p>		<p>Please refer also to a petition, dated 12 February 2020, opposing the proposal set out in Scheme 04:Lacock, signed by every resident who would be affected by the Scheme, which has been submitted to Wiltshire Council.</p>

11	Resident	Disagree	<p>Rowden Hamlet is surrounded by farmland and is connected by an ancient footpath across the fields directly to Reybridge and Lacock. Whilst aware of the facilities offered by Chippenham, we do not particularly use or benefit from them to the detriment of those offered by Lacock. Both culturally and historically we identify more closely with the farming and rural community than the urbanised area of Chippenham. Consequently our interests are best represented by the rural Parish Council of Lacock.</p>		<p>Please refer to the petition opposing Scheme 04:Lacock, dated 12 February 2020, signed by EVERY resident who would affected were this to proceed. Not one resident believes this Scheme would deliver any additional tangible benefit.</p>
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12 Resident

Disagree

I do not believe the proposals reflect the interests or identities of the communities. The area is largely rural and has more in common with Iacock than it has with the urbanising Chippenham

Amalgamations of rural parish areas into Chippenham, Melksham & Trowbridge will erode community identity & support. These towns have failed to grow successful hearts to cater for over development of surrounding green belt. Further centralised power will not well serve the commuter satellites. The towns should concentrate on revitalising, reuse of brownfield development within. The proposals are about cost effectiveness not community and as such will reduce the ability for local participation

	13 Resident	Disagree	<p>Rowden is an ancient hamlet with records dating back as far as 1208. It is surrounded by farmland and is connected by an ancient footpath across the fields directly to Reybridge and Lacock. Whilst aware of the facilities offered by Chippenham we do not particularly use or benefit from them to the detriment of those offered by Lacock. Both culturally and historically we identify more closely with the farming and rural community than Chippenham. Our interests are best represented by Lacock parish</p>		<p>A petition signed by every resident who would be affected by this scheme has been submitted to Wiltshire Council, Chippenham Town Council and Lacock parish council</p>
Page 434	14 Resident	Disagree	<p>Rowden Hamlet is surrounded by farmland and is connected by an ancient footpath across the fields directly to Reybridge and Lacock. We do not particularly use or benefit from the facilities offered by Chippenham to the detriment of those offered by Lacock. Both culturally and historically we identify more closely with the farming and rural community than the urbanised area of Chippenham, consequently our interests are best represented by the rural parish council of Lacock</p>		<p>A petition signed by every resident who would be affected by this scheme has been submitted to Wiltshire Council, Chippenham Town Council and Lacock parish council</p>

	15 Resident	Disagree	This proposal does not reflect the interests or identity of the community. Our area is rural and has more in common with Lacock than Chippenham Town.		The amalgamation of rural parish areas into Chippenham, Melksham and Trowbridge will erode and not reflect our community identity and support. We are a successful community and the suggested towns have failed to cater for the over development of surrounding green belt. further centralised power will not serve satellite rural communities. these proposals are about cost effectiveness not about community.
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Scheme 5/9 (Melksham Without 1) Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree /Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments	
1	Resident	Agree				
3	Representative	Agree				
Page 436	5	Interested Party	Agree	<p>The area is immediately adjacent to the recent extension of the urban area of Melksham to the east of the town and is currently being developed as its final phase. There will be 447 dwellings, play area/public open space, community building and will be bounded by a southward extension of the eastern distributor road. The new community building will also provide a facility for residents of the 800 homes to the north, and new residents will in turn be served by the existing shops, pub and primary school there. The two communities therefore share interests and can identify themselves as a unified 'East Melksham.</p>	<p>The recent review of Wiltshire Council by the Boundary Commission has placed the area, referred to as Hunters Meadow, in the Melksham East division together with the existing eastern part of Melksham Town parish. The extended eastern distributor road forms a clearly defined boundary between urban and rural areas which continues from the north right around the south and west of the town. As an expansion of the town, the area should not remain in the rural parish which serves villages.</p>	<p>In respect of Scheme 24, there is no 'layer of administration' to be removed - the Town Council and the Parish Council are both parish councils, but may on occasions need to represent the differing views of their residents on some matters. Bigger is not always better, especially if things become town-centric at the expense of rural communities, and there is no need for Melksham to compete with the other market towns of Wiltshire for size status.</p>
	6	Interested Party	Agree	<p>I believe the that common goals and interests of individuals are the same in both regions and therefore the merger would be of interest to both parties.</p>	<p>There would be efficiency savings by merging both local governments which could be utilized for more pressing issues</p>	<p>You will need to listen to each respective council for what they hope to achieve based on them remaining independent from melksham and offer them more than there current ambitions to get them on board, i would be happy to help with this.</p>

8	Resident	Agree	The Parish Council reasoning makes perfect sense	The Parish Council reasoning makes perfect sense	
12	Resident	Agree	It seems logical to me that this development be part of Melksham Parish	As above	
15	Interested Party	Agree		Encompassing the new housing development into Melksham makes sense to me.	
19	Resident	Agree	New developments need to become part of a ward where their identity and interests would be better served	New developments should be governed by local people to become effective	
20	Resident	Agree	Makes sense to group the various new developments under one umbrella	It's not unreasonable to assume similar property types and developments have similar needs	
21	Resident	Agree			
22	Resident	Agree	The few local authority areas the better, they are a resource drain and confusing for resident, no democracy is search as low voter turnout in local elections	Reduce to 9 Regional Assemblies, abolish all other local government bodies, leave LA Officers to work without additional bureaucratic burden	
23	Resident	Agree			
24	Resident	Agree	It would be good to include all of Melksham and make it one community	It would be easier if all Melksham came under one governance	
25	Interested Party	Agree	combined the whole area as part of Melksham to reduce the confusion and double requesting from town and main council	combined the whole area as part of Melksham to reduce the confusion and double requesting from town and main council	

			The Hunters Wood development is clearly an extension to the main town and the residents of the development will surely identify with the community of the town therefore should be part of the Town Council	Melksham Without is primarily a rural parish. This development is an extension of the Melksham urban area and therefore should be governed in the same fashion.	
	27	Resident	Agree		
	28	Resident	Agree	Agree with the position of Melksham without that such matters as planning work better from Melksham as a town	As above
	29	Resident	Agree		I agree with the principle that the new housing estate is more suited to governance from Melksham Town Council
	31	Resident	Agree		
	33	Resident	Agree		it makes sense to have one town council to look after the towns interests.
	34	Resident	Agree		
	36	Interested Party	Agree		
	40	Resident	Agree		
	48	Resident	Agree	This is part of melksham and shouldn't be treated as without, the residents will use the facilities within the town	This is part of melksham and shouldn't be treated as without, the residents will use the facilities within the town
	54	Resident	Agree	No concerns with changes	No concerns
	60	Resident	Agree		No
	62	Resident	Agree	Localising too far can be counter productive, so centralising the management of the whole is more effective.	The merger will produce overall cost savings

63	Resident	Agree	It makes sense for this area to be part of the town.	It makes sense for this area to be governed by Melksham Town Council.	No.
64	Interested Party	Agree	It would make sense for the Hunters Wood development to be transferred to the Parish of Melksham.	It would make sense for the Hunters Wood development to be transferred to the Parish of Melksham.	No
65	Resident	Agree	As a Bowerhill resident under Melksham Without Parish Council I agree that the new housing development of Hunters Wood should be moved to Melksham Town Council. The housing development seems to be part of the existing housing developments that are already under Melksham Town Council and therefore doesn't really fit with the rural nature of Melksham Without Parish Council.	I believe that the large number of dwellings are an extension of Melksham and are therefore not a rural parish like Bowerhill so it would be more appropriate for the housing development to be under Melksham Town Council. It would make sense that the additional council tax revenue would go to Melksham Town Council as the residents of these houses are more likely to be using the services offered by the main town of Melksham and not those of the surrounding areas maintained by MW Parish Council.	I find it unreasonable that Wiltshire Council cannot take into account the parish council precept levels when making a decision regarding the proposed merger of Melksham Town Council with Melksham Without Parish Council as the merger seems to be financially motivated and driven by Melksham Town Council. I moved to Bowerhill in 2003 after purchasing a new house because I really liked the rural feel of the community which is the reason that I still live here.
38	Resident	Amendment	I think Melksham should stay Melksham Parish and join Melksham Without and the two one parish becoming Melksham Parish		
56	Resident	Amendment	couldn't read proposal online - page not loading		

2	Resident	Disagree	I believe that this proposal is merely a money raising exercise and nothing to do with reflecting the identities and interests of the community in that area,	I believe that this proposal is merely a money raising exercise and nothing to do with maintaining Effective and Convenient Local Government in that area is,	
4	Resident	Disagree	Serious loss of a beautiful amenity area and possibility of excessive development affecting the immediate area by the canal		Further development would be detrimental to an area of outstanding natural beauty.
7	Resident	Disagree	Bowerhill is well served by Melksham without Parish Council, the Town council has no knowledge n8r interest in the needs and aspirations of a more rural community. If this completely inappropriate proposal is accepted then Bowerhill must be offered the chance to become an independent Parish encompassing the whole of the village, industrial estate and MOCS	The Town council would be incapable of effective and convenient local governance of The Melksham without area. They didn't even include the whole parish in their original proposal .All they're interested in is acquiring the Parish precept!	Please take into account the deep knowledge, experience and care that Melksham Without Parish council has always had with the communities they work for. Melksham Town has no knowledge and less experience of the needs of a rural community. They have never shown any interest. Indeed they have often objected to schemes that enhance the communities of Melksham Without.
9	Resident	Disagree	Melksham Without will be completely swamped by Melksham town	Local government works perfectly well at the moment under Melksham Without. If it became one large area, we would not have the voice we have now	The proposed new authority would be unwieldy and distant from us, the residents
10	Resident	Disagree	Melksham Without has a different identity and issues compared to Melksham Parish and we feel it will be under-represented as result	As Melksham grows it will be too cumbersome for Melksham Without to be merged with Melksham Parish	It is important for all households to have equal representation and we do not believe that this will happen in one, larger merged authority



			My concerns are that if hundreds of additional households will be included in Melksham Town boundaries, are there enough resources to cater for this?? From street cleaning to GP practices etc all very concerning for Melksham with such rapid growth, local roads becoming congested, especially through the town that rely on the bridge etc	I suppose if councillors are appointed appropriately then it will not affect their work so much but if the resources are not increased it doesn't matter how hard the councillors work there will be no services to support local residents. I do feel Wiltshire Council has forced excessive growth on Melksham without appropriate investment in town services or facilities.	
11	Resident	Disagree			
13	Resident	Disagree			
14	Resident	Disagree	Melksham Without is a very different community from Melksham. They have different needs and requirements and both would suffer if they were to be merged. Their only "common" feature is that they are physically close to each other.	Large parish councils cannot be more convenient than smaller ones. If they are less convenient, they cannot be more effective, as their main purpose is to provide a focal point for local opinion to influence the behaviour of civil servants and public officers.	
16	Resident	Disagree	Don't understand it - where is the proposal?	Don't understand it - where is the proposal?	
17	Resident	Disagree	the issues that affect Bowerhill are different to those in the town of Melksham	the issues that affect Bowerhill are different to those in the town of Melksham	
18	Resident	Disagree			
26	Resident	Disagree	Increased costs	Increased costs	
30	Resident	Disagree	Melksham Without already provides a very good service for the villages around Melksham. If the councils are combined, Melksham Without will inevitably be swamped by Melksham	I don't see that removing control from very local councilors we currently have will make services more Effective and Convenient as stated	When something is working smoothly, what is the point of change for the sake of change. Please leave things as they are.

	32	Resident	Disagree	Central Town council do not understand the outlying districts needs and wishes.	Council tax is more than double !!!???	Council tax charges. Community identity diminished.
	35	Resident	Disagree	Melksham is a town council and Whitley, where I live is a rural community the needs and requirements are different and could be in conflict		
	37	Resident	Disagree	too often decisions are made centrally and by non-locals that affect local residents, and there is no local voice present. This move would make that more of a problem	This would start to remove local governance.. making more and more centrally made decisiosn without appearing to consider local impact	
Page 442	39	Resident	Disagree			
	41	Resident	Disagree	Price increase	Price increase	
	42	Resident	Disagree	This measure is being put in place to reduce costs, and not to bring about a better system. We increased spending, not cuts.	This measure is being put in place to reduce costs, and not to bring about a better system. We increased spending, not cuts.	
	43	Resident	Disagree	Because as a small village we have our own identity and this will be lost	Because of the affect it will have on my local area and the potential rise in council tax	
	44	Resident	Disagree	I feel that Melksham Without ie Bowerhill in my instance would be better seerved by the existing parish council	It works well as is!	
	45	Resident	Disagree	The proposal for Melksham to swallow up land currently in Seend puts an area of natural and conservation importance at risk of being built on by Melksham's relentless drive to build more houses.		

46	Resident	Disagree	Our communities need to retain their uniqueness and be response to those who live in their communities. We shouldn't have higher Council Tax imposed on us.	Governance won't be targeted and relevant across a larger area.	Very poorly explained consultation which will lead to confusion.
47	Resident	Disagree	The village needs to keep its identity and not be swallowed up by Melksham. It must remain independent	I do not believe combining with Melksham will bring any benefits. The parish council is more than adequate and performs extremely well	
49	Resident	Disagree	Shaw, Whitley and other villages have their own character, distinct from that of Melksham town, and also have their own needs in relation to planning, public transport, schools and the like. With a merged council these distinct concerns would not get the representation they need.	Many of the residents of Shaw, Whitley and other villages have limited mobility and/or transportation options, making it important for them to be able to access their council representatives locally.	
50	Resident	Disagree	To keep Melksham Without a separate entity to maintain this community - not for it to be subsumed to Melksham	I do not think that merging parishes currently part of Melksham Without to Melksham town council will materially contribute to "Effetive and Convenient Local Governance"	
51	Resident	Disagree	Wish to leave Melksham without exactly as it is.		No
52	Resident	Disagree	Loss of village identity	Loss of very good support from current council	Proper weight should be given to the value of a truly localised council rather than anonymous centralisation for the purposes of efficiency

The communities of Melksham Without have a distinct identity and interests from Melksham Town. This has been illustrated by Melksham Without in setting up and managing its flood wardens groups, various residents associations and a whole range of other community projects. The rural nature of the communities has influenced the way it has prioritised highways issues and the successful speed watch groups within it. It has been successful in prioritising its community on issues of planning and rural transport. Melksham Town has routinely failed to support the flooding groups or other groups. With a town dominance in the new merged council this level of support and priority will be lost amongst differing town priorities that fail to reflect the existing Melksham Without communities.

Melksham Without is a very efficient parish (as illustrated by its cost effectiveness). It has been incredibly successful in supporting residents associations such as in Bowerhill, Whitley and Shaw and Berryfields. It has help set up and support numerous residents projects. For many residents the move to the Town will also lack convenience. Melksham Without routinely moves its meetings around the parish. Town Council meetings are fixed in the town hall.

You've had a resounding No before sentiment the same

53 Representative Disagree

55 Resident Disagree

57 Resident Disagree

58	Resident	Disagree	the loss of local Parish councils and merger with the town council will severely damage the need for rural communities to look after their local matters	Local issues will side stepped in favour of what is best for town planning.	
59	Resident	Disagree	Loss of potential income for MWPC, loss of rural space	Loss of potential income for MWPC, loss of rural space	
61	Resident	Disagree	We are more aligned to Shaw/Whitley- and too far removed from the 'town' of Melksham	I would like to see the parks and maintenance of our immediate area handled by local councillors	By moving GWG into Shaw/Whitley Ward-it would encourage expansion of Shaw school and reduce school run traffic into Melksham. The catchment for Melksham oak also needs reviewed as its on the wrong side of town for Melksham without. With reduced bus services and unsafe cycling/walking routes for children it would be more appropriate to have Shaw and Whitley under the catchment of Corsham School.
66	Interested Party	Disagree	This a dilution of a potential revenue stream for Melksham Without Parish Council	Refer to above answer	The need to desperately improve the highway infrastructure around Melksham before any further development. I have lived in Melksham and now Beanacre since 1989 and 1996 respectively and whilst the town has grown exponentially, the infrastructure has not improved to reflect this.
67	Resident	Agree	Agree to bringing new housing areas into town now, they will only expand.	Incorporating new housing into 'town area'.	Increasing health and education provision for town
68	Resident	Disagree			The fact that melksham parish council is far better run than melksham town.

Scheme 6/10 (Melksham Without 2) Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amended	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal			
2	Representative	Agree with the proposal			
3		Disagree with the proposal	The loss of a beautiful local amenity in Giles Wood and the detrimental effect any development might have on the area		Further development would be detrimental to an area of outstanding natural beauty.
Page 446 4	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal	The area is currently being developed with 100 dwellings as an extension of the town along the north side of the A3102. It is bounded by existing housing to the northwest and is directly opposite recent new residential development to the south. To the east is totally rural open farmland. New residents will make use of existing local facilities in the Town parish to the west and south thereby identifying with the communities there.	The recent review of Wiltshire Council by the Boundary Commission has placed the area in the Bowerhill division in order to balance electorate numbers, but it has nothing in common with the village or the surrounding rural area. Surely community identity, interests and effective governance should have greater importance than arbitrarily balancing numbers. The eastern boundary is a clearly defined extension of that to the north.	In respect of Scheme 24, there is no 'layer of administration' to be removed - the Town Council and the Parish Council are both parish councils, but may on occasions need to represent the differing views of their residents on some matters. Bigger is not always better, especially if things become town-centric at the expense of rural communities, and there is no need for Melksham to compete with the other market towns of Wiltshire for size status.

5	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal	The ambitions and characteristics of both areas are intrinsically linked and therefore the community would benefit from both perspectives	Efficiency savings would be made therefore allowing public funding to be spend on more necessary projects.	You will need to listen to each respective council for what they hope to achieve based on them remaining independent from melksham and offer them more than there current ambitions to get them on board, i would be happy to help with this.
6	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	The integrity and independent identity of Melksham without Parish council is too precious for it to ge handed over to the Town Council who gave no interest in the rural communities of Melksham Without	The Town Council is only interested in acquiring the Parish Precept. To mix rural and Town interests will be detrimental to all the communities of Melksham Without.	Please take into account the deep knowledge, experience and care that Melksham Without Parish council has always had with the communities they work for. Melksham Town has no knowledge and less experience of the needs of a rural community. They have never shown any interest. Indeed they have often objected to schemes that enhance the communities of Melksham Without.
7	Resident	Agree with the proposal	The Parish Council reasoning makes perfect sense	The Parish Council reasoning makes perfect sense	
8	Resident	Disagree with the proposal			
9	Resident	Agree with the proposal			
10	Interested Party	Disagree with the proposal	Melksham Without has a different identity and issues compared to Melksham Parish and we feel it will be under-represented as result	As Melksham grows it will be too cumbersome for Melksham Without to be merged with Melksham Parish	It is important for all households to have equal representation and we do not believe that this will happen in one, larger merged authority
11	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal	It seems logical to me that this area be a pert of Melksham Parish	As above	

12	Resident	Disagree with the proposal			
13	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Central Melksham needs a separate council, as a suburban residential area is not the same as a commercial town centre.	Large parish councils cannot be more convenient than smaller ones. If they are less convenient, they cannot be more effective, as their main purpose is to provide a focal point for local opinion to influence the behaviour of civil servants and public officers.	
14	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal		Encompassing the new housing development into Melksham makes sense to me.	
15	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Don't understand it - where is the proposal?	Don't understand it - where is the proposal?	
16	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	the issues that affect Bowerhill are different to those in the town of Melksham	the issues that affect Bowerhill are different to those in the town of Melksham	
17	Resident	Disagree with the proposal			
18	Resident	Agree with the proposal	New developments need to become part of a ward where their identity and interests would be better served	New developments should be governed by local people to become effective	
19	Resident	Agree with the proposal			
20	Resident	Agree with the proposal			



21	Resident	Agree with the proposal	Keep Melksham as one community	Easier governance of one parish	
22	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal	combined the whole area as part of Melksham to reduce the confusion and double requesting from town and main council	combined the whole area as part of Melksham to reduce the confusion and double requesting from town and main council	
23	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Increased costs	Increased costs	
24	Resident	Agree with the proposal	This small development simply "rounds-off" Melksham Forest and the residents will certainly identify with this area.	This small development is entirely adjacent to the area governed by the town council	
25	Resident	Agree with the proposal	proposed plan is an infill to the roads and should be connected by a convenient and clearly signposted footpath	better to integrate this into a town wide plan - makes more sense to have Melksham in control of it	a overworded complex process which needs much clearer language and design
26	Resident	Agree with the proposal		I agree with the principle that the new housing estate is more suited to governance from Melksham Town Council	
27	Resident	Agree with the proposal	not really interested no matter what we say you will do what you want.	As above	
28	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Comments as before	Comments as before	When something is working smoothly, what is the point of change for the sake of change. Please leave things as they are.

29	Resident	Agree with the proposal			
30	Resident	Agree with the proposal	makes sense to have one town council to look after the town, rather than multiple ones.		
31	Resident	Agree with the proposal			
32	Resident	Agree with the proposal			
33	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Melkham is a town council and Whitley where I live is a rural community - they have very different needs and requirements and could be in conflict		
34	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	We should stay seperate from Melksham town council		
35	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal			
36	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	keeping the local community together in the parish is important to identity	we need to move away from centralizing all decision making, otherwise we may as well just send it all to Westminster and let them decide everything. Keep local communities local	
37	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal	it will help people who live in council houses the opportunity to buy there houses		
38	Resident	Suggest an amended proposal	couldn't read proposal online - page not loading		
39	Representative	Disagree with the proposal	The amount of houses being built is ludicrous doctors ,schools,roads drains,shops just can't cope what are you doing about that		I believe there are more important issues

40	Resident	Disagree with the proposal			
41	Resident	Agree with the proposal			
42	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Price increase	Price increase	
43	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	This measure is being put in place to reduce costs, and not to bring about a better system. We increased spending, not cuts.	This measure is being put in place to reduce costs, and not to bring about a better system. We increased spending, not cuts.	
44	Resident	Agree with the proposal	It would seem to make sense		
45		Disagree with the proposal			
46	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Our communities need to retain their uniqueness and be response to those who live in their communities. We shouldn't have higher Council Tax imposed on us.	Governance won't be targeted and relevant across a larger area.	Very poorly explained consultation which will lead to confusion.
47	Resident	Agree with the proposal	We are one community, shouldn't be seen as two. We share common resources and all the houses estates are linked, no big green boundaries.	The residents come into town and use the facilities that are paid for by Melksham town,	
48	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Maintain a separate community of Melksham Without	Do not think the proposal will enhance effective and convenient local governance	
49	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Please leave the Melksham without councils exactly as they are.		
50	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Loss of village identity	Very good support from local council	Proper weight should be given to the value of a truly localised council rather than anonymous centralisation for the purposes of efficiency

51	Resident	Agree with the proposal	Reduction of number of councillors	Reduction - costs. What is the cost of changing to new integrated system	
52	Resident	Disagree with the proposal			You've had a resounding No before sentiment the same
53	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	THE Parish Councils play a vital roll in reflecting local rural issues	It is likely that rural and local issues will be marginalise in favour of what is best for the town in general.	
54	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	Loss of potential income for MWPC, loss of rural space	Loss of potential income for MWPC, loss of rural space	
55	Resident	Agree with the proposal			
Page 452	56	Resident	Suggest an amended proposal	Agree in principle but call parish 'Shurnold'	By moving GWG into Shaw/Whitley Ward- it would encourage expansion of Shaw school and reduce school run traffic into Melksham. The catchment for Melksham oak also needs reviewed as its on the wrong side of town for Melksham without. With reduced bus services and unsafe cycling/walking routes for children it would be more appropriate to have Shaw and Whitley under the catchment of Corsham School.
	57	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal	see previous questions	see previous answers
58	Resident	Agree with the proposal	It makes sense for this area to be part of the town.	It makes sense for this area to be governed by Melksham Town Council.	No.
59	Resident	Disagree with the proposal	looks like an increase in council tax for no gain	as above	no reason to change from current rules other than extra taxation

60	Interested Party	Agree with the proposal	It would make sense for the Land North of Sandridge Common be transferred to the Parish of Melksham.	It would make sense for the Land North of Sandridge Common be transferred to the Parish of Melksham.	No
61	Resident	Agree with the proposal	As a Bowerhill resident under Melksham Without Parish Council I agree that the new development should be moved to Melksham Town Council. The development seems to be part of the existing housing developments that are already under Melksham Town Council and therefore doesn't really fit with the rural nature of Melksham Without Parish Council.	I believe that the dwellings are an extension of Melksham and are therefore not a rural parish like Bowerhill so it would be more appropriate for the houses to be under Melksham Town Council. It would make sense that the additional council tax revenue would go to Melksham Town Council as the residents of these houses are more likely to be using the services offered by the main town of Melksham and not those of the surrounding areas maintained by MW Parish Council.	I find it unreasonable that Wiltshire Council cannot take into account the parish council precept levels when making a decision regarding the proposed merger of Melksham Town Council with Melksham Without Parish Council as the merger seems to be financially motivated and driven by Melksham Town Council. I moved to Bowerhill in 2003 after purchasing a new house because I really liked the rural feel of the community which is the reason that I still live here.
62	Resident	Agree with the proposal	Agree to bringing new housing areas into town now, they will only expand.	Incorporating new housing into 'town area'.	Increasing health and education provision for town
63	Resident	Disagree			The fact that melksham parish council is far better run than melksham town.

Scheme 7 North Bradley 1 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Disagree	Keep North Bradley out of the jurisdiction of Trowbridge	It is not effective to join NB to Trowbridge	Listen to the comments from the effective Parish Councils. These reflect the views of the parishioners
3	Resident	Agree	It makes sense for all development contiguous with Trowbridge Town to be included in that parish as the new arrivals will identify with being part of the town	The proposals will help address the potential unfairness of parish residents using town facilities without paying towards them and enable the division member to conduct business more effectively with just one parish council	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
4	Resident	Disagree	North Bradley village should stay separate from the town of Trowbridge .	Trowbridge is no longer a desirable place to live due to crime , lack of medical facilities and road congestion .	
5	Resident	Disagree	It is wrong for Trowbridge to grab village land	To keep a gap between town and village	
6	Resident	Disagree	This would make parts of North Bradley a town, not the village we wish it to remain.	This would make N.Bradley severely under funded, it is greed on Trowbridges part.	Please keep Historic North Brafley as is, and not absorbed into a town, preserve our identity.

	7 Resident	Disagree	To protect North Bradley's identity as a village and rural area and maintaining a physical boundary. Trowbridge and North Bradley will have different priorities.	North Bradley needs representation by a councillor who does not hold interests in the neighbouring town who would therefore have different priorities as an urban area.	
	8 Resident	Disagree	I live in Drynham, a rural hamlet within the parish of North Bradley. To incorporate this community served by a country lane into Trowbridge would not only erode the green space between the parishes but destroy all identity the residents have with the village of North Bradley.	I fail to see how any change would benefit the residents.	I believe there should be some sensitivity in our modern age to preserving historic communities in our county.
Page 455	9 Resident	Disagree	North bradley is a village which I have chosen to live in and still retains some village community, this will all be lost if swallowed up by Trowbridge and lose any control of itself.	I do not agree as I feel I should be able to vote in the village elections as I have done for 20 years so far.	Trowbridge is growing bigger and bigger with very little facilities and now the birthing centre is going, hospital part time and low jobs meaning most commuting out of the area for work.
	10 Resident	Disagree	I disagree with the scheme as it only serves the purpose of shrinking the North Bradley village parish boundary to bolster the ability of Trowbridge Parish council to generate greater income from new housing developments, it reduces the say that locals can have in their local community development and it further erodes the identity of small villages which make up the character and spirit of this great country. It amounts to nothing short of Gerrymandering.	I disagree with the scheme, North Bradley has a very active community which is served well by the local parish council, moving the boundary will only silent further local voices as they are not going to identify with a new parish which is remote to them and doesn't represent where they live!	

11	Resident	Disagree	I moved to north bradley from trowbridge 28 years ago to be in a village with a parish. That is how I want it to stay.		
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Scheme 8 North Bradley 2 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Disagree	Keep NB and Trowbridge the same no change is required	Not effective	Listen to the comments from the effective Parish Councils. These reflect the views of the parishioners
3	Interested Party	Agree	those who come to live in development contiguous with Trowbridge will identify with the town not a far away village	It makes sense for the division member to have to deal with one parish council (and potentially may be represented on TTC too)	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
4	Resident	Disagree	It is wrong for the town of Trowbridge to grab village land	Keep town and village separate	
5	Resident	Disagree	This would turn parts of North Bradley into a Town, and no longer a village.	It is greed on Trowbridges part, taking income from North Bradley parish council, rendering them ineffective to deal with the workings of the parish	Please keep Historic North Brafley as is, and not absorbed into a town, preserve our identity.

6	Resident	Disagree	To protect North Bradley's identity as a village and rural area and maintaining a physical boundary. Trowbridge and North Bradley will have different priorities.	North Bradley needs representation by a councillor who does not hold interests in the neighbouring town who would therefore have different priorities as an urban area.	
7	Resident	Disagree	North bradley is a village which I have chosen to live in and still retains some village community, this will all be lost if swallowed up by Trowbridge and lose any control of itself.	I do not agree as I feel I should be able to vote in the village elections as I have done for 20 years so far.	Trowbridge is growing bigger and bigger with very little facilities and now the birthing centre is going, hospital part time and low jobs meaning most commuting out of the area for work.

Scheme 11 Seend 1 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Interested Party	Agree	The land includes a canalside picnic area provided and maintained by a Bowerhill community group with full support from Melksham Without Parish Council. It is to the north of the Kennet & Avon Canal whereas the Seend community is entirely to the south of the canal.	The position of the parish boundary is now impossible to locate on the ground as several of the hedgerows that it used to follow have been removed. The canal, however, is a very clear physical feature and already forms the boundary between the two parishes to the west and is also the northern boundary of Semington parish. Following the review of Wiltshire council by the Boundary Commission, Seend parish will now fall within the Devizes Area Board. The land contains no properties.	In respect of Scheme 24, there is no 'layer of administration' to be removed - the Town Council and the Parish Council are both parish councils, but may on occasions need to represent the differing views of their residents on some matters. Bigger is not always better, especially if things become town-centric at the expense of rural communities, and there is no need for Melksham to compete with the other market towns of Wiltshire for size status.
5	Resident	Agree	Valued open spaces, additional costs to maintain but MWPC have recently taken on play areas and already made valued improvements, we look forward to more!	Valued open spaces, additional costs to maintain but MWPC have recently taken on play areas and already made valued improvements, we look forward to more!	

	7 Resident	Agree	<p>The picnic area that is next to the canal on the Bowerhill side was created and is now maintained by Bowerhill Residents Action Group (BRAG). The picnic area, the cycle path to it (also maintained by BRAG), are mainly used by Bowerhill residents on a daily basis. Many residents believe the area is within Melksham Without Parish Council and that the boundary with Seend is the canal - a physical boundary.</p>	<p>Melksham Without Parish Council greatly supports the work of BRAG in the community and has always given an annual grant to BRAG to help them in that work.</p>	
Page 460	8 Resident	Agree	<p>The picnic area, which is maintained by BRAG and Bowerhill residents, is closer to the village of Bowerhill than Seend. It lies on the Bowerhill side of the canal, which in itself is a natural boundary between Bowerhill and Seend.</p>	<p>As teh picnic area lies clsoer to Bowerhill and on it's side of the canal, it seems logical to include this within the remit of Melksham Without Parish Council</p>	
	9 Resident	Agree	<p>The BRAG picnic area adjacent to the K &amp; A canal is naturally an extension of Bowerhill, the majority of the people making use of it are from Bowerhill as well as the volunteers who maintain the picnic area and the pathway and hedges leading to it. The involvement of Seend is minimal if at all and geographically separated from the picnicarea.</p>		

28	Resident	Agree	This area is closer to Bowerhill and well used by residents of the area.	The natural features on the ground which once delineated the parish boundary have long since disappeared. The boundary should be moved to follow an existing feature.	The residents of Seend seem to show little interest in the area whereas the residents of Bowerhill demonstrate their interest daily.
30	Interested Party	Agree	re proposal 24 only the land covered by the picnic area and bridle path should be transferred to melksham without		
22	Resident	Amend			
27	Resident	Amend			
3	Resident	Disagree			
4		Disagree			
6	Resident	Disagree	the woodland site was created by a Seend resident and for the benefit of the Seend residents, a powerful letter in support of it continuing to remain within Seend was sent to the parish council and was read to the assembled councillors and interested observers. The right of use of the BRAG site is dependent on her say so and she does not wish it.	this is a land grap in the style of Russian take over of Crimea	

10	Resident	Disagree	<p>Seend Parish encapsulates the K&amp;A canal and our neighbourhood plans have the canal and the surrounding land at their core. The change to the parish boundary are unnecessary from a melksham without perspective but would have a detrimental affect to the green buffer and corridor that the current boundaries present. The BRAG site's inclusion in melksham without is not in itself a good enough reason to make the change when the context of the wider landscape is taken in to effect.</p>	<p>In terms of effective governance, this is at its core a disingenuous attempt to free up land south of bowerhill for additional development, as well as paving the way for option three of the bypass. In terms of convenience, there is currently no reason why this change should take effect, In fact i think local democracy would be detrimentally affected if this proposal went ahead due to the nature of slight of hand on behalf on WC</p>	<p>WC has not been honest or acted within principles of good faith or governance in the way that this proposal has been moved forward. There has been no substantive change in the situation since the last review in 2015.</p>
11	Resident	Disagree	<p>The picnic area, giles wood and farm land next to the canal are all important ,much loved. and protected from development by Seend Parish Council</p>	<p>It is most convenient and effective to keep the control with Seend as it is. They have given financial support to the wildlife picnic area in the past.</p>	

			I believe the boundary should remain unchanged because this area acts as an important buffer between the rural parish of Seend and the urban parish of Melksham. The Kennet and Avon canal is part of the identity of Seend and the BRAG picnic area was supported by Seend Parish Council from the outset. As a resident of Seend I walk down to Giles Wood and around the surrounding farmland on a weekly basis and use the canal towpath. I believe this area is safer from development if it remains withi		
12	Resident	Disagree		Melksham without Parish Council is better placed to have the resources to carry out tasks such as the maintenance of the picnic area.	I believe that the legacy of Giles wood which allows enjoyment of a wonderful rural facility by residents of Seend and Melksham without parishes should remain within Seend Parish and that the wishes of Mrs Giles should be respected.
13	Resident	Disagree			
14	Representative	Disagree			
15	Resident	Disagree	Boundary change will mean loss of Giles Wood.	The current parish council are very committed to their area.	

	16 Resident	Disagree	This proposal relates to a very small picnicing area yet encompasses a much larger area - of importance to the Parish of Seend	This proposal is disingenuous in the extreme. The grounds for this boundary change fail to address the fundamental issue of the wider encroachment and the potential effect this will have on the Parish of Seend. The owner of Giles Wood (much of the land referred to here) is opposed to this proposal with objections made in the public domain	
Page 464	17 Resident	Disagree	As a resident of Seend Cleeve for over 20 years I have enjoyed watching the development of Giles wood and indeed have planted a tree and wild daffodils in memory of dear friends. I fully support the objections raised by Mrs Giles and by the Seend Parish Council. I do understand that Melksham Without PC wish to gain more control of the BRAG picnic area but it this would involve the transfer of a considerable area of land which borders the canal and includes Giles Wood - an undesirable outcome.		



	18 Representative	Disagree	<p>Parishioners in Seend value the amenity of the areas adjacent to the canal and are concerned to protect and preserve its relationship with the parish.</p> <p>Freddie's Woods and the picnic area are available for people to enjoy from the wider community which is good for healthy recreational pursuits, walking cycling and being close to nature. People of seen strongly identify with Freddie Wood and The Picnic Area.</p>	<p>Seend Parish Council supports the voluntary group BRAG financially and wish to facilitate the enjoyment of this area as identified in the Draft Seend Neighbourhood Plan which is now in Regulation 14 consultation period. The BRAG picnic site is recognised in the plan as a valued green space.</p>	<p>The Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan promotes the canal as a vital amenity and seeks to protect and enhance its amenity, character and historic value at Policy SP7 and maintain and improve access to encourage its use for sport leisure and recreational use. I believe it is therefore important to maintain the Seend Parish boundary at its current position to protect the character and setting of the landscape. Policy links to Wiltshire Core Strategy Core Policies 52 (GI) 53 and 58. Historic Environment</p>
Page 465	19 Resident	Disagree		<p>I am a resident of Seend Parish. Seend is a rural parish and the canal, with its adjacent farmland, is important to the identity of the parish. My family has cycled and walked the towpath for over 20 years since the days when the path from Bowerhill to the canal was the bumpy, muddy edge of the field. Along with all nearby residents and visitors, we appreciate the improved footpath, the BRAG picnic site and the delightful Giles wood. Seend Parish values this area.</p>	

20	Resident	Disagree	<p>I strongly object to this proposal and think the boundary should remain as present. The arguments for change do not include the whole picture and are therefore misleading. There is an area of farmland, Giles Wood as well as the BRAG picnic area that are involved. It is incorrect to say this area is not important to Seend Parish, which has designated the area a Local Green Space in our NDP. It protects the rural setting of the canal, against urban encroachment.</p>	<p>This proposed change has no meaningful advantage, and the land owners and particularly the owner of Giles Wood are against any such change.</p>	no
21	Resident	Disagree	<p>The area included (The picnic site and teh "Giles Wood") are amenities of Seend and nothing to do with Melksham</p>	<p>The land grab seems to be entirely for bureaucratic convenience and will allow further new building 'creep' right up to the Seend boundary. It will obviously also faciltitate planning for the proposed bye-pass</p>	<p>I totally disagree wiith this plan. There is nothing wrong with the current and historical arrangement. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"</p>
23	Resident	Disagree	<p>Giles Wood would loose it's identity as Giles Wood in Seend, which is deeply upsetting for the many residents of Seend and Seend Cleeve who use, love and cherish Giles Wood as a special place created and bequeathed to Seend by Freddie Giles.</p>		<p>The threat that this change could more easily open up this area up to the canal for even further housing development ruining the unique rural environment around the Kennet and Avon canal</p>

	24 Representative	Disagree	<p>I am in in disagreement with the proposed scheme. The area that MWPC wish to remove from Seend Parish and take into their boundary is an area very much valued by Seend residents for it's recreational use. The area is rural and fits better with the Seend Parish character as identified in the Seend Parish Neighbourhood Plan Draft Version. In this plan we clearly specify the importance of the Kt &amp; A Canal, which sits within Seend Parish, for recreational and amenity use along it's length.</p>	<p>I see no effect on this issue. MWPC supported BRAG to form the picnic site and must have allowed for the costs in their precept. Seend also makes a contribution towards costs. It makes no difference to cost whichever Parish it is in.</p>	<p>The proposed Melksham bypass will go through this area and it would seem sensible to look at boundary changes post the clarification of the by-pass. Otherwise MWPC will have a tiny sliver of land, including Giles Wood and the BRAG picnic site, on the canal side which would be better in Seend.</p>
Page 467	25 Resident	Disagree	<p>This land, especially Giles wood, should be as it is and still be part of Giles farm. It is part of and the continuation of the canal area for leisure and nature purposes.</p>		<p>The proposed Melksham East bypass will form a natural barrier between Bowerhill and the canal, Giles wood and the picnic site. It would be sensible to make no changes to the boundary now as the future bypass will form an obvious boundary. Leaving the canal area in the Seend parish now will avoid the need to change it all back when the bypass has been installed.</p>

26	Resident	Disagree	<p>Seend needs to keep a distinct separation from Melksham to keep its own identity. There is open countryside at present to define the boundaries. The interests/identities of Giles Wood owner is best served by the land remaining in Seend. It has a more rural character to that of the more built up and urban Bowerhill. Need to protect this special character so it is not subsumed into Bowerhill. Boundary been in existence for years. Must not upset historic traditions nor lose sense of indiv identity.</p>	<p>Seend is a large village and needs remain so. The boundary inc, canal has been there for years and does not need to be change. No advantage to Seend to change boundary or give land to Melksham. Tradition should remain as it is.</p>	<p>If the land is given to Melksham, it is likely Bowerhill development will expand and there will be no open countryside - that part of Seend will become urbanised. The owner of Giles Wood who has lived there for years wants to continue to live in the countryside and she wishes to continue her late husband's (who is buried there) wishes. This rural area which must be protected from further development so Seend keeps its individual identity and special character.</p>
29	Resident	Disagree	<p>I do not agree to the proposal to split Giles Wood. The whole wood and picnic site should remain in Seend Parish</p>	<p>Just because it may be "convenient" for local governance does not warrant a change of boundary. This appears to be a "land grab" by the back door allowing for the possibility of the route of the new by pass to be decided by Melksham to the detriment of Seend.ew by pass</p>	<p>I understand that the boundary as it is, has been in existence for many years, and there is no valid reason to move it now.</p>
30	Resident	Agree			<p>Increasing health and education provision for town</p>

Scheme 13 Trowbridge 1 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Agree	new arrivals in new development will identify with the town not a far away village centre	the governance will be more effective based on contiguous development	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
3	Resident	Disagree	Erosion of the Hilperton gap and any development would be accessed from Elizabeth Way i.e. From Hilperton not Trowbridge.	Do not understand the question.	
4	Interested Party	Disagree	I think the boundaries should remain the same	I think the boundaries should remain the same	
5	Resident	Agree			
6	Interested Party	Agree	Sensible that boundaries should coincide	Boundaries should coincide	

Scheme 14 Trowbridge 2 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments	
1	Interested Party	Agree				
Page 470	2	Resident	Agree	Travelling on the A350, the signposts make clear that West Ashton is to the East and Trowbridge to the West. New arrivals in the Ashton Park development will identify with the town. It is ludicrous to pretend this is not part of our town and part of a village separated from the development by a considerable distance and a main road	It makes sense for town and unitary councillors to represent contiguous development with consistent governance	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
	3	Interested Party	Disagree	I think the boundaries should remain the same	I think the boundaries should remain the same	
4	Resident	Agree				
5	Interested Party	Agree	Boundaries should coincide.	Boundaries should coincide.		
6	Representative	Disagree	There are no forecast of electorate before 2024 and therefore any change to the boundary that affects West Ashton is entirely premature. Any change will have an adverse affect on the progress of West Ashton's Neighbourhood Plan, which is currently at the REG14 stage with the consultation underway.	Since there will be no electorate in the foreseeable future there is no justification to make any changes at this time.	TTC's argument is preicated on urban expansion and to achieve the aim it is simply to subsume parts of adjacent parishes into the urban expansion.	

Scheme 15 Trowbridge 3 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments	
1	Interested Party	Agree				
Page 471	2	Resident	Agree	This is development contiguous with Trowbridge and separate from a far away village centre.	It makes sense for efficiency reasons to unify governance where possible on contiguous development and town and unitary electoral basis	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
	3	Interested Party	Disagree	I think the boundaries should remain the same	I think the boundaries should remain the same	
4	Resident	Agree				
5	Interested Party	Agree	Boundaries should coincide.	Boundaries should coincide.		
6	Resident	Agree			Should ensure a suitable gap between Trowbridge & North Bradley to maintain the villages' identity	

Scheme 16 Trowbridge 4 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/ Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
Page 472					
2	Resident	Agree	Any development here will be contiguous with Trowbridge and become part of our town and identify with it accordingly.	As this will effectively be part of Trowbridge it is important that a % of CIL goes to the TC to enable appropriate facilities to be provided and help reduce the considerable burden on council tax compared with neighbouring parishes who have benefited from development which cannot be sensibly viewed as part of their parish	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
3	Interested Party	Disagree	I think the boundaries should remain the same	I think the boundaries should remain the same	
4	Resident	Agree			
5	Interested Party	Agree	Boundaries should coincide.	Boundaries should coincide.	



Scheme 17 Trowbridge 5 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments	
1	Interested Party	Agree				
Page 473	2	Resident	Agree	Those living in new development contiguous with Trowbridge will identify with our town	It will make voting easier not having to travel to a distant parish centre.	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
	3	Interested Party	Disagree	I think the boundaries should remain the same	I think the boundaries should remain the same	
	4	Resident	Agree			
	5	Interested Party	Agree	Boundaries should coincide.	Boundaries should coincide.	
	6	Resident	Disagree	I disagree with changing the parish boundary to simply allow housing development		

Scheme 24 Melksham Merger Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree Proposal A	Agree Proposal B	Agree Proposal C	Agree Proposal D	Disagree with any merger	Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree A			Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)	Disagree		The villages and communities around Melksham have their own identities and interests having more in common with each other than with the town. All the villages enthusiastically participate in the annual 'Best Kept Village' contest. Many residents access facilities in other nearby towns, not just Melksham.	Much of the Town Council's supporting document is factually incorrect. The residential development under construction at Bowerhill and Berryfield is an extension of those communities, not the town. Developers at Bowerhill are working with the village community and the Parish Council to provide a defined 'gateway' feature on Pathfinder Way, together with a rural buffer incorporating drainage infrastructure. Play areas and open space will be solely managed by Melksham Without Parish Council; the Town Council are not involved. Urban and rural communities are different, requiring their own council. The Parish Council serves the villages and rural areas economically & efficiently. In the wider context, two voices are always better than one.	In respect of Scheme 24, there is no 'layer of administration' to be removed - the Town Council and the Parish Council are both parish councils, but may on occasions need to represent the differing views of their residents on some matters. Bigger is not always better, especially if things become town-centric at the expense of rural communities, and there is no need for Melksham to compete with the other market towns of Wiltshire for size status.
2	Interested Party					Disagree				
3	Resident					Disagree		Melksham taking over areas of land which it would subsequently use to build on		
4	Resident					Disagree		Melksham Without Parish Council currently covers the rural villages surrounding Melksham and the communities have different needs and expectations to the residents of the urban area of Melksham Town. Melksham Town has many expenses for projects within the town that are not normally used by residents of the surrounding villages and those residents are not content with paying extra on their council tax for facilities that they rarely use.	Melksham Without Parish Council has a proven track record of looking after the residents in the rural area and supports the community groups in the various villages. A previous motion to combine the councils a few years ago was rejected and I cannot see that anything has changed. Combining the 2 councils would not necessarily mean a saving of council personnel as the combined residents of the larger area would be the same. Different skill sets would be needed to run both a rural and an urban area together.	

	5	Resident							I chose to move from Melksham Town to the village of Bowerhill in 1988. I am proud to say that I live in Bowerhill as it has a strong community spirit. We have our own primary school, village shop, pub, hairdressers, play areas, picnic area. All the attributes of many of the villages within Melksham Without Parish Council. We need to encourage and nurture the individuality of these villages, which could be lost forever if they were to come under the jurisdiction of Melksham Town Council	Melksham Without Parish Council does an excellent job in supporting all the local villages. It's demise would certainly cause the loss of some of the brilliant public servants. The voice of the "little people" would be lost if it were not for the hard work and enthusiasm of these councillors. It has supported all the villages in its catchment area. Without that support the residents groups in Bowerhill, Berryfields and Shaw and Whitley would not be able to operate as effectively as they do. Funding for the play areas, village halls, the BRAG picnic area would almost certainly be lost as these items would not be high on Melksham Town's agenda so the village identities will be lost forever.	
	6	Resident									
Page 475		Resident							There is nothing about a merger that would be in the interests of community identity and interests of the communities currently under the care of Melksham Without Parish council who have a deep understanding and care of all the communities of the Parish,	how can increasing the size and muddling up rural and Town communities be considered effective and convenient local government? It can't! The Town Council is only interested in increasing their revenue. If this ridiculous idea is accepted then Bowerhill must be offered the chance of becoming an independent Parish council.	Please take into account the deep knowledge, experience and care that Melksham Without Parish council has always had with the communities they work for. Melksham Town has no knowledge and less experience of the needs of a rural community. They have never shown any interest. Indeed they have often objected to schemes that enhance the communities of Melksham Without.
	8	Resident							It is important that the rural communities are properly represented and not swamped by the urban council	It is important that the rural communities are properly represented and not swamped by the urban council	
	9		Agree A								
	10	Resident							Option C in Scheme 24 is to move new housing from Parish into Town. This matches Scheme 09 and Scheme 10 and meets with current community identities.	The Melksham Without parish council is primarily rural and includes a number of villages including Bowerhill. These areas have significantly different needs and priorities to the main Town. Effective governance needs to recognise these differences.	
	11	Resident	Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)					Price increase	Price increase	
	12	Resident			Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)				Our communities need to retain their uniqueness and be responsive to those who live in their communities. We shouldn't have higher Council Tax imposed on us.	Governance won't be targeted and relevant across a larger area.	Very poorly explained consultation which will lead to confusion.
	13	Resident							It would destroy a lovely village feel	More expensive and in so doing destroy a peaceful village	You've had a resounding No before sentiment the same

14	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	As a Bowerhill resident I consider the proposed merger of Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council to be primarily financially motivated. I don't believe that this merger is being driven by Melksham Without Parish Council as Bowerhill is served extremely well by them. I consider Bowerhill part of Melksham but it has its own identity as a rural community and I am concerned that a merger will have an adverse effect on its rural identity.	As Melksham seems to be ever expanding with numerous new housing developments, I assume that Melksham Town Council would have enough available funds from the increase in council tax revenue to be able to provide excellent services for the town without the need for a merger. As a Bowerhill resident under Melksham Without Parish Council my house attracts a lower council tax rate compared to a house under Melksham Town Council. On this basis the proposed merger does seem to be financially motivated to absorb the Melksham Without Parish Council rural communities in order to further boost the Town Council's council tax income. Bowerhill as a rural community has its own village hall, primary & secondary school, pub, local shop and playing fields.	I find it unreasonable that Wiltshire Council cannot take into account the parish council precept levels when making a decision regarding the proposed merger of Melksham Town Council with Melksham Without Parish Council as the merger seems to be financially motivated and driven by Melksham Town Council. I moved to Bowerhill in 2003 after purchasing a new house because I really liked the rural feel of the community which is the reason that I still live here.
15	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	I do not believe that the proposals reflect the interests nor identities of the community. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ONLINE FORM DOES NOT ALLOW SPACE FOR FULL COMMENTS AND THEREFORE I REFER YOU TO MY PAPER COPY THAT IS SENT IN THE POST!!!!	The expansion of the towns - Melksham, Chippenham and Trowbridge - for the purpose of meeting residential development targets is unsustainable for local community life under current proposals, with largely commuter driven population travelling for employment, education, health, retail and leisure facilities. Transport, health, education and infrastructure are under-provided and this projected growth pattern will not be best served by more centralisation and subsequent reduction in local democratic voice	Amalgamation of rural parish areas into Chippenham, Melksham and Trowbridge will erode community identity and support. these towns have failed to grow successful hearts to cater for the over-development of surrounding green belt and further centralised power will not well serve the commuter satellites. The towns should concentrate on revitalising/re-use of brownfield development within. The proposals are about cost-effectiveness, not community, and as such will reduce the ability for local parti
16	Resident	Agree A				Disagree		The expansion of the towns, Meksham, Chippenham & Trowbridge for the purpose of meeting residential deveopment targets is unsustainable for local community life under current proposals, with largely communter driven population travelling for employment, education, health, retail & leisure. Transport, health, education & infrastructure are underprovided & this projected growth pattern not be best served by more centralistaion & subsequent reduction in local democratic voice	Amalgamations of rural parish areas into Chippenhame, Melksham & Trowbridge will erode community identity & support. These towns have failed to grow successful hearts to cater for over development of surrounding green belt. Further centralised power will not well serve the commuter satellites. The towns should concentrate on revitalising, reuse of brownfield development within. The proposals are about cost effectiveness not community and as such will reduce the ability for local participation



26	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	Melksham and Melksham Without are separately governed and would benefit remaining so.	It is to the benefit of Melksham Without to be separate from Melksham Town in all ways	At least we have a Parish Steward to do maintenance of roads, paths etc - don't think we will if merged!
27	Resident	Agree A		Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)		Disagree	Melksham Without Parish Council has a unique understanding of the distinct character of the 5 separate villages/areas and rural hinterlands in the Melksham Without Parish and that the dissolution of the Parish Council and the creation of a new Council with the Town & Without parishes together will mean that the separate, distinct identities of the villages of Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Berryfield and Bowerhill will be diluted and threaten their community cohesion. A cohesive community is one where there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities.	The Parish Council provides effective community engagement and local democracy, under the current boundaries. The parish council already actively engages with the members of its communities, and actively supports and facilitates the work of action groups, Assets in the community are also community led with management committees, supported with practical advice as well as grant funding, running village halls and playing fields in the Melksham Without Parish area. The parish council has a very clear understanding of the needs of these villages and fears that the five distinct identities of the separate parts of the parish will be lost if the parish council is dissolved and the villages become part of a larger council with the town.	A merger may mean that our villages would receive considerably less council support and funding which would impact assets like Shaw Village Hall & playing field, Whitley Reading Rooms, CAWS and the Community Emergency Group. It may also lead to increased Council Tax bills for Shaw & Whitley residents
28	Resident					Disagree	There is an increased chance of less council support and funding for our area and also an increase in council tax	We lose our local identity	
29	Interested Party					Disagree	Not in the interest of Shaw	Not in the interests of Shaw	No
30	Resident					Disagree	Keep separate identity because better able to focus on local issues	Focused attention from a local council that understands our circumstances	
31	Interested Party					Disagree	Melksham without and Melksham town are distinctly different areas that need separate attention and merging them and treating them equally will lose identity and serve neither area very well	A merger would be convenient for the more urban areas allowing them to absorb and dominate the less populated, more rural areas leading to the demise of many of the features which make Wiltshire an attractive County. It will not make governance more effective as politics will still hinder decision making whatever size the council area becomes.	
32	Resident					Disagree	Melksham Without Parish Council does a really good job and definitely facilitates the identity and interests of the parish community.	The Parish Council provides an effective and convenient local governance and is preferable to the Town Council	
33	Representative					Disagree	The outer villages will lose their identities and individuality if subsumed into an overarching town council. Actions by the town council have resulted in vast waste of public funds - eg paving the very useful parking area to the South of the town centre cost a ridiculously large amount of money and has resulted in the provision of a 'white elephant' and the loss of a very useful amenity. We do not want this team governing our villages.	Centralised governance will lead to all major issues being focused on the central town area whilst the requirements of the outer villages wither on the vine.	No
34	Resident	Agree A				Disagree			
35	Resident	Agree A				Disagree			

								This option has been put forward by Melksham Town Council to move the village of Bowerhill into their domain. Like Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Berryfield, Bowerhill has always been a village managed by the Melksham Without Council. There is no need to change this structure. All the latter villages need to be managed by the Melksham Without Council who always focus on the needs of the villages. Melksham Town Council manages the town of Melksham and that should remain their total focus of management.		Melksham Without Council have proved over many years their focus on meeting the needs of the specific villages surrounding Melksham. The separation of the 2 Councils should remain as agreed approx 4 years ago.		
36	Resident								Disagree			
37	Resident							Retain unique identity and character of the village	Disagree		Diversion of focus away from the village to "town" issues.	
38	Resident	Agree A						Communities are outside of the town & exist separately	Disagree		Believe merger would be to the detriment of Melksham Without areas	
39	Resident	Agree A						The current arrangements work well differentiating the needs of the more rural villages from the needs of the urban centre. Joint arrangements have worked when needed and could continue as required. This is a thinly disguised land grab by the Town Council to increase their revenue even though finance is excluded from the remit of the review.	Disagree		There is no extra layer of administration to be removed. Options B,C & D merely adjust the current arrangements but would be unsustainable given the size of the electorate and the demography.. Those proposals merely reinforce the argument that this is a land grab for Bowerhill by the Town Council.	None. This is ill-founded and should be rejected.
Page 479					Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)				Disagree		Melksham should keep its own identity	Local governance is best for the area
41	Resident	Agree A						The Melksham Town and Melksham Without councils broadly represent the town and surrounding villages respectively. While the communities they represent have some interests in common, they equally have competing interests. I would rather see each community - town and countryside - represented by their own councils.	Disagree		The merger proposal makes a case for efficiency in merging the councils. While this may be true, it may come at the cost of overlooking the interests of different communities. The point is made that there are now newly developed areas which come under joint administration. I do not see that this necessarily means that the administrations need to be merged - it is possible for joint decision making committees to be set up to administer these areas which report to respective councils. Finally, the growth in electorate seems to be mostly in Melksham Without parish, with much less growth in Melksham Town - this means that Melksham Without should have more control over the extra funding, rather than a merged council.	No. You may publish this response, but please do not publish my email address.
42	Resident	Agree A						Bowerhill should remain as Melksham Without and separate to Melksham	Disagree		None	
43	Resident	Agree A						Why change a system that works and serves the areas they cover very effectively	Disagree		as stated i Para 6 we already have an effective Boundary area in place that serves the Communities they cover IF IT WORKS DONT CHANGE	I believe that by merging the town and Parish Without Councils will not deliver a better Parish in fact I think it will be derimental to the whole Area

44	Resident	Agree A					Without parish council is closely tied to the needs and feelings of the local people who live and work within the affected villages. They are run by local people with an interest in local issues, and who will fight for the needs of the local people.	As has in my opinion been shown by the creation of a large unitary authority, local issues for local people are lost in the bigger organisations that concentrate on the issues affecting the major settlements and have little interest in investing money or time in the smaller villages. Melksham without live and breathe these local concerns and will represent the views of residents.	the continued removal of local interaction by creating bigger bureaucratic organisations does nothing to encourage the community to get involved in local politics and council work. keep councils local and accessible to all stop trying to create bigger and worse organisations purely to save money.
45	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)			Melksham Without has a separate RURAL identity. Although being swamped with new housing, it still has little in common with Melksham Town.	Smaller local governed areas work because things get discussed and decisions made more effectively.	Melksham Without Council does not waste money on unnecessary 'community events', which regularly happens in Melksham Town.
46	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)			Having seen the effects of Wiltshire council unification (loss of identity of west Wilts) I feel that the needs of Bowerhill, which are totally different to the needs of Melksham will be diminished & sidelined.	The council will become Melksham orientated & too big for its boots, as shown in the letter from Linda Roberts BA (Hons) PGCAP, FHEA, FSLCC Town Clerk	
Page 480 47	Resident	Agree A					It is exactly the rural Community Identity and Interests that will be lost if this merger goes ahead. The merged council will be very large, and the needs and demands of the larger town population will crowd out the support and funding needs of the smaller rural population. As the town gets bigger, its divergence from the community surrounding it gets greater – each need their own parish/council.	Convenience may be served by the merged council itself, but only in terms of its internal workings. For the same reasons as stated in Q63, the Effectiveness of governance would not be served. Quite the contrary.	
48	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)					
49	Resident	Agree A					Bowerhill is a distinct rural village surrounded by countryside. Its character will be lost completely in a merger.	"Effective and Convenient" is the same as anonymous and remote. The council will be too large to reflect the needs of residents in different areas.	
50	Resident						Melksham without have operated effectively for years	Melksham without have looked after Bowerhill well while I have lived on Bowerhill	



51	Resident							Melksham Without represents the interest of its residents very well and I am concerned that this voice will be swallowed up in a larger organisation.	If it ain't broke don't fix it. Melksham Without does a fine job for the residents. Please leave it as it is.	We strongly disapprove of any extensive building programmes including housing and proposed by-pass to the South of Bowerhill. This area has already expanded enough with the new housing to the East to Bowerhill Lane and North to the A36. Additionally, the vast expense of the Semington By-Pass and Farmers Roundabout over the last few years would be rendered obsolete if a further by-pass is constructed South of Bowerhill. Thank you.
52	Resident							The suggested merger is between largely rural village communities and a town and suburbs. Each had different concerns and requirements from local government. I believe that the merger would result in a loss of identity for the rural communities and that their concerns would take second place to those of the much larger town population.	The rural community needs it's own governance.	The Melksham merger proposal looks like a case of change for change sake. I see no reason to alter the existing parish boundaries.
53	Resident							We are in agreement with CAWS and are unhappy that there will be considerably less funding for our area	We are in agreement with CAWS and are unhappy that there will be considerably less funding for our area	the parish works really well as is with an amazing community spirit which would be detrimentally affected with proposed changes
54	Resident							I would like to keep things as they are.	What would be the cost to the community if this merger went ahead?	A lot of people have formed professional relationships with their councillors so especially the elderly, this could be difficult and not effective.
55	Resident							I agree totally with the Parish Councils views as published in The Melksham News of 30th January 2020	Repeat of Q63	It is true local democracy lacking party political bias
56	Resident							The needs of Shaw & Whitley as a rural area are very different to the needs of Melksham town, and should be considered as a wholly different community. There is already an identity in these villages - Shaw village even predates Melksham, and we have different interests.	The needs of Shaw & Whitley as a rural area are very different to the needs of Melksham town, and should be regulated separately. I feel that we would lose the understanding of our particular requirements if we were part of Melksham town.	
57	Resident							We live in a village that is not physically linked to the town of Melksham and want to stay that way.	Being separated from Melksham Town means that we can focus on our own local issues and not for them to get lost in the red-tape of all of Melkshams issues.	

58	Resident					Disagree	The merger is based not on the needs of the Shaw and Whitley residents. We are served fantastically by Melksham Without Parish council and this should not be taken away because the town council believe it is right for them.	A parish requires volunteers to be available from a diverse range of people, in a society currently where representatives can only come from those with time on their hands, such as retired. This is not representative.	The merger has been opposed once and I see no new reasons that have changed my mind benefiting shaw and whitley. This survey has been incredibly difficult to track down on line, no decision should be made unless a significant number of responses from Shaw and Whitley residents. You should be making it easy for people to respond, i'm exceptionally computer literate and have had to spend time finding the survey - link you provided in the letter didn't work and the scheme numbers were not provided
Page 482	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	The proposed merger would result in the loss of identity and cohesion of the separate villages within MWPC. Each village has a distinct rural character which is acknowledged and understood by MWPC. A larger merged council would have an urban focus at odds with the aspirations of the villages which value their individual identity	The merger of the Town Council and MWPC would create a large geographic and administrative area. To ensure democratic representation of this inflated population would entail an unwieldy number of councillors. The existing Parish Council is supportive and sensitive to the needs of the villages within its boundaries whereas a larger merged council focused on Melksham Town would seek to promote the interests of an urbanised region	MWPC is very supportive of village initiatives, action groups and village hall management committees. With a large increase in population in a merged council, councillors ability to respond to these village based communities would be reduced
60	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	Having lived in Bowerhill for 24years I have always found Melksham Without PC to be effective in serving their community. It is quite apparent that the Councillors/staff are intent in ensuring that the area is best served and their work is communicated to the residents regularly. On checking through their website under the "what do Parish Councils do" paragraph I consider that MWOPC currently 'tick the boxes' in all areas. Again, I believe the service currently delivered by people who have an interest in a particular area would be diluted should a merger take place – big is not always better. I have read the lengthy, pro-merger submission regarding the positives of Melksham becoming the 4th largest urban area in Wiltshire but I am unabl	I have concerns, should the two Councils merge, regarding manageability. In a recent newsletter figures were given regarding representation of electorate. I appreciate that these figures are 'rough' however it clearly shows that Councillors' electorate would nearly treble. How is this effective and efficient? And is it manageable? One submission states that most people do not know that the two areas are governed by two different Councils. I disagree with this – the majority of MWOPC residents are aware and this awareness comes from the strong community links/work currently carried out by MWOPC. The Council is effective and convenient. To merge these areas would be to the detriment of local democracy.	Having read the documentation available, and attending the public meeting on 22nd January 2020, I would like to know what has changed since the last Governance Review in 2016. A similar scheme was proposed and overwhelmingly rejected at that time. Apart from a request by one organisation and two submissions from individuals there is nothing that actually gives a reasoned argument for this change.
61	Resident					Disagree	Melksham Without which includes Bowerhill should continue to serve this areas interest rather than become part of a merged organisation. I feel that a merged Council will not serve this area as well as the current arrangements and Town matters will take priority.	The proposed merger between Melksham Town Council and Melksham Without Parish Council was raised 2 or 3 years ago. This proposal was rejected at that time and I can see no change in circumstances since then to warrant a merger. My overall view is that the two Councils to remain independent and serve the areas they currently serve. I accept that there might be some Organisational/Financial and Personnel savings in a merger, but these are offset by better control etc by the current Two Councils. Costs savings are not always the best criteria for such an action.	The current arrangements seem to work well for both Councils, why change and possibly make satisfactory arrangements worse.

62	Resident	Agree A	Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	I feel that if we merge with Melksham town, we will lose our voice, especially with proposals for house building on farm lands	I believe that effective governance will end for Melksham Without in any merger	
63	Resident				Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)	Disagree	I think we would receive less support and funding in our village if we had to form our own council	Our intrests are I think best served by being part of a larger council.	
64	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	The current situation of two separate councils ensures the best support is given to both the rural and urban residents. One council would find it more difficult to represent the wide range of different issues. The community groups of Melksham Without are very supportive of their council.	A merger would result in either an unwieldy number of councillors, making the council inefficient, or would give each of a reduced number of councillors (compared to the current number in Town and Parish) a notional number of parishioners that would be too large to support effectively.	
65	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	Community governance would be seriously affected by Merger. MWPC is an essentially rural council, whose villages have a very clear identity. Any merger would seriously affect these communities, and the voter/councillor ratio would also would get worse. Further, this merger was thrown out four years ago by WC and nothing has materially changed since.	See above,the effectiveness community governance would decline, and there is little support in the MWPC communities for any change.	
66	Resident					Disagree	Likely to mean our village would receive considerably less council support and funding. May also lead to higher Council Tax Bills.	Likely to mean our village would receive considerably less council support and funding. May also lead to higher Council Tax Bills.	The importance to residents of Local Community & Parish identity - and Local Representation should not be underestimated.
67	Resident					Disagree	We are very well served by Melksham Without who provide outstanding service to our community	Already receive outstanding"Effective & Convenient Local Governance". Cannot be improved.	
68	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	Bowerhill village has historic links to the RAF(WW2). It has always been a village and will stay a village. Bowerhill is a part of Melksham Without Council and serves the villages around Melksham. Under no circumstances should the 2 councils be merged. There is no requirement for this merger as agreed approx 2 years ago	Melksham council focuses soley on Melksham town not the villages. The villages surrounding Melksham town are unique and each have thier own history and characteristics. The Melksham Without council focuses soley on the needs and challenges of the villages whilst working together with the Melksham council to ensure seamless governance of the whole area.	Bowerhill is a village. It has its own village hall and community hubs. It is well managed by the Melksham Without council, should remain a separate entity from Melksham council
69	Resident					Disagree	Bowerhill village has historic links to the RAF(WW2). It has always been a village and will stay a village. Bowerhill is a part of Melksham Without Council and serves the villages around Melksham. Under no circumstances should the 2 councils be merged. There is no requirement for this merger as agreed approx 2 years ago	Melksham council focuses soley on Melksham town not the villages. The villages surrounding Melksham town are unique and each have thier own history and characteristics. The Melksham Without council focuses soley on the needs and challenges of the villages whilst working together with the Melksham council to ensure seamless governance of the whole area.	Bowerhill is a village. It has its own village hall and community hubs. It is well managed by the Melksham Without council, should remain a separate entity from Melksham council

70	Resident					Disagree	Melksham without is a community of semi rural villages and hamlets including lower and upper and lower Woodrow, Melksham. We are a rural community wityh our own identity. We do not wish to be merged with an urban community	Melksham Without operates perfectly satisfactorily and democratically and efficiently within its own remit. Big does not always mean better. If you carried the latter argument to its logical conclusions there would be nore parish administration at all	Why have the expense of reorganising these boundaries? Please leave us with our own identify of which we are very proud
71	Resident					Disagree	Community identity will be lost	Local votes for local issues	
72	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	We have an excellent council, change will lead to less support with the focus switching away from the villages on to the town	Our councillors always involve themselves with the community action groups and have a history of involving the community in decisions	
73	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	The councils should remain separate, as two councils		
74	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	No change		
75	Resident	Agree A				Disagree			
76	Resident					Disagree	The existing team at Melksham Without do an excellent job supporting the local villages. Supporting village halls, play areas and the resident groups	The switch will lead to a switch with teh interests of the Town being placed ahead of the villages.	
Page 484 77	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	This issue was looked at 4 years ago and was rejected. Nothing has changed, Melksham Without do an excellent job supporting the villages surrounding Melksham. The community action groups are thriving and fully supported by the council. A transfer to Melksham will almost certainly lead to an increase in the rates for the villages. Shaw and Whitley would struggle to survive and deal with the costs of setting up its own council.		I agree that the transfer of Blackmore and Hunters Wood from Melksham Without to Melksham makes sense. However Bowerhill is a village with its own seperate identity, with a thriving village hall and Community Action Group. It MUST remain part of Melksham Without.
78	Resident					Disagree	Melksham without is a rural area with a strong non-urban community identity. We have no wish to be merged with an urban area	Local government in melksham Without is carried on perfectly effectively and conveniently as it is. There is no need for an expensive change involving our rural residents, paying a higher amount of council tax. A high proportion of our residents are pensioners.	Why alter a local government arrangement that has been performing well in the twenty years we have lived in Melksham Without. This is pure territorial aggrandisement on the part of Melksham Town Council
79	Resident					Disagree	As submitted by local groups with very local knowledge, following very local consultations, e.g.CAWS, Shaw & Whitley Vilalge Hall ect		
80	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	The efficiency of Melksham Without outways the Town.	Enjoy village life.	

81	Resident	Agree A					Residents of both Town and Parish have their own specific identities and interests maintained by the respective councils. Any attempt to merge Parish with Town will deny individual villages/ villagers within the Parish the rightful individual support for their interests currently provided by the Parish. Most if not all villagers will proudly declare they are residents of that village. They will only refer to Melksham when speaking to strangers that need direction from/to the nearest postal town.	The Town does indeed face many challenges and apparently assume a merger with the out-lying villages will ease their burden. The Town may gain some financial advantage if their proposed merger is permitted, but this will not make them any better at managing the affairs within the current electorate. There is by no means a 100% record. What township, hoping to attract a wider audience/ larger footfall would close two of the three public toilets? Given that: It is most unlikely that a single council, formed largely by councillors drawn from the more populous town area, will provide effective or even satisfactory governance for the more diverse communities currently so well served by the Parish	Nothing has changed since the recent (2016) boundary review was completed which, recognising the individual needs and interests of the villages and the depth of governance provided by the Parish, dismissed the Town's merger request.
82	Resident	Agree A					The village residents are able to associate with the parish council who support and understand their needs. A single council will not have the collective knowledge or wish to devote time and energy to the village interests.	The individual village communities are fully represented in the parish council. The parish should not be merged with the town because this effective and convenient governance would be lost.	This merger should be put on hold for at least four years. By which time the proposed melksham bypass may have become a reality and a recognisable hard boundary between rural and urban districts formed.
83	Representative	Agree A					We get an excellent service from Melksham Without parish council which cannot be bettered	Being a village community we currently receive effective and convenient local governance from Melksham Without parish council	
84	Resident	Agree A					Each of the villages around Melksham have their own community identity and interests which are presently well represented by Melksham Without parish Council. This is most unlikely to continue under a large merged council with the Town. Urban issues will dominate and resources will inevitably get concentrated into facilities in the town centre. Residents in the villages and rural areas will end up with nothing and be expected to travel into Melksham for their activities, degrading their quality of life.	Melksham Without is already the largest rural parish in Wiltshire covering 5 villages, some of which could easily have their own parish council in other places, and therefore an efficient and convenient system of governance is in place. The needs of each village community are balanced across the parish by a council fully engaged with its residents. Creating a large merged council with the town would generate unmanageable conflicting requirements and lead to paralysis. The present two parish arrangement provides effective and convenient local governance for both the town urban area and the rural village areas	I suggest that scheme 5/9 and scheme 6/10 are all that is required to ensure that the recent expansion of urban development across the boundary is integrated into the town and is the only change necessary
85	Resident								Loss of village identity

								As a resident of Bowerhill in Melksham Without, I firmly believe it is in my best interests for the merger NOT to go ahead. In particular, I would like to keep physical separation between Bowerhill and Melksham, I object to the proposed Melksham East Bypass on the grounds of too many more houses in the Area, Not enough jobs locally to support those houses and the environmental impact of those new residents commuting to (presumably) Bristol/Swindon since there are insufficient local jobs to support those new residents and the current total lack of appropriate infrastructure (schools, Medical facilities, Parking etc) that will likely be exacerbated by such development.		Again, I believe the best interests of Melksham Without residents will be served by the merger NOT going ahead in the same areas my answer to Q63 above.	I am aware of and concerned by Reports of yet more possible urban development in the area known as Giles Wood in Bowerhill. There are already too many new houses being built in the area without the employment and infrastructure to support them, especially as local transport is getting worse not better with detrimental effects on the environment.
86	Resident					Disagree					
87	Resident	Agree A				Disagree		Centralisation will mean we lose aspects of village identity		We have knowledgeable, effective and personal response from existing council. No way will a centralised council supply this.	
88	Resident					Disagree		If you amalgamate melksham without with any other area we would lose our individuality. Becoming part of a bigger area would mean we lose our say and issues would always get decided on the majority which would leave us always in a minority. Why change what is workign well for us????		Local governance means just that. Absorbing us into a larger area loses our local governance. The larger area would always overshadow us - that is supposed to be democracy of the stroner!!	The local councillors of melksham without (during the 35 years I have resided in this area) have always made their recommendations fairly and consulted us on important issues. I want that local representation to remain
89	Resident					Disagree		melksham without has little in common with town			
90	Resident					Disagree		The rural nature of the seperate villages including Bowerhill are best understood and protected by having one seperate Melsham Without council away from the urban area of Melksham!		The Melksham Without council provides ad effective voice for the seperate villages. The councillors currently provide a very democratic council based on local knowledge. This would be heavily diluted if there was only the one combined council	
91	Resident	Agree A				Disagree		Shaw & Whitley villages currently represent a discreet, active and well supported community. We believe that this proposal would lead to considerably less support and funding from the council. This would adversely impact on many activities and assets in our two villages, such as Shaw Village Hall & playing field, Whitley Reading Rooms, our local community group (CAWS) and our extremely professional and active Community Emergency Group. We also believe that this merger would impact on the village ethos, the main reason why many people chose to live / move here		Shaw and Whitley currently benefits from extremely profession and effective governance from MWPC. Having atteded one of the recent open meetings, we heard nothing which convinced us that such excellent service will / can be provided centrally by MTC.	We would simply like to re-emphasise that we believe that the proposed merger will have a negative impact on the spirit and ethos of our local villages.
92	Resident					Disagree		I believe that the parish councils should retain there own identity so as to more easily represent the local people within their catchment		To keep the parish council relevant to the area that it covers	

93	Resident						<p>This Merger was discussed by CGR in December 2016 and nothing has changed. Melksham without parish council have a unique understanding of the distinct character of the 5 separate villages. The creation of a new council would dilute and threaten community cohesion. The individual villages all have their own sense of belonging and identity, and support their own communities as well as Melksham Town.</p> <p>Melksham without are far more able to act and govern on behalf of these local communities, without involvement of Melksham Town. We feel that Shaw and Whitley would be too small to govern themselves effectively, without the benefit of the other villages.</p>	<p>Melksham without has extensive local knowledge of the local areas, wants and needs. They fully support the community they represent. e.g. Flood Wardens. The distinct identities of the five villages could be lost if they all became one large area and one large Council under an urban council. A new large council councillor would not be able to represent the local people as well as they are represented now.</p>	
94	Resident	Agree A	Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	<p>Any merger would destroy the rural nature of the villages.</p>		
95	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	<p>To me waste of money which i thought councils need to save money. and council tax will rise if we merge .where we are we have no street lights no gas</p>	<p>as we said above waste of money</p>	<p>It would be nice if a member of the council came here to look at the situation we are in . ie Traffic. But i know that is not going to happen</p>
96	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	<p>We are semi rural &amp; I dont feel we should be connected to Melksham. Our selves and our neighbours do not have mains gas, street lights, mains drains, a street name. If this merger goes ahead, can we expect the same services as those in the town? I doubt it, but we would be expected to pay even more council tax.</p>	<p>A complete waste of money and as I've already stated, we are semi rural and lack the basic services from those who live in Melksham. We are happy to remain as Melksham without.</p>	<p>We do not receive the Melksham News as they dont deliver to our area. We are told that our road is too busy and dangerous for them to deliver to the 4 properties. We only heard of the proposal on social media. I am definitely not in agreement with the merger and I believe we would be expected to pay further council tax, regardless of the lack of amenities we have. I think someone from the council should personally converse with us living in a semi rural environment</p>

	97 Resident	Agree A				Disagree	<p>Shaw and Whitley are and have been for many years a community united together in history. Our parish churches share one vicar and thereby attend services in each other's churches on a bi-weekly basis. Our community organisations CAWS and the Community Emergency Group (CEG) operate equally in both communities and as a result are stronger together than separately. There are officers and membership from both communities and therefore local representation of our respective interests and diversities. I see being amalgamated into Melksham Town Council as a loss of our autonomy and identity and therefore as a backward step to the enhancement of both our communities.</p>	<p>I cannot express highly enough my admiration for the help and assistance we have received from Teresa Strange and her team at Melksham Without Parish Council. Whatever CAWS and the CEG (Emergency Group) wished to do, Teresa was always there for us, to help and guide us and in many cases to help fund our good work for both Shaw and Whitley. Their grasp of local politics as well as county politics has been faultless and wrapped up in extremely sound economic and community judgement. Whether it was on flooding issues, environmental concerns, planning and housing, leisure enhancement etc Melksham Without have been there for all our residents's concerns and I am therefore wholly against the idea of a merger with Melksham.</p>	<p>Melksham and Shaw are villages and wish to remain so. If we were to be taken over by Melksham Town Council we would be subsumed into their culture and priorities. In addition we would no double be worse off financially since our needs are those of a village and not a town. Local governance as Shaw and Whitley have known it through being administered by Melksham Without has made us effective and caring communities and we wish to remain this way as we did when this was voted on in 2016. I</p>
Page 488	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	<p>Feel that staying as Melksham Without would give the area an independant voice rather than no voice at all. It is better to have a second opinion on matters pertaining to Melksham Without as being part of a larger parish would negate this.</p>	<p>One council would not be able to fully serve the needs and opinions of residents from Melksham without. A larger council would have to much centralised control and the particular needs of the Melksham Without residents would not be served.</p>	
99	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	<p>Wish to retain the rural village identity and feel it would be lost or diluted by being part of something much bigger and urban</p>	<p>These villages are represented by 3 parish councillors at the moment who are representative of a council that understands and aligns to a rural way of life. This rural elementary would be lost if absorbed into an urban led council structure with less counsellors representing the villages and our broader needs</p>	<p>I attended a flood warden meeting on Sunday and feel very supported by the current structure and feel this would be lost if merged into something much bigger. I can't seem a combined council warden giving up their Sunday afternoon to support emergency response planning amongst residences, for example</p>
100	Resident					Disagree	<p>If Berryfield (the civil parish in which I live, and which I consider to be a more rural than urban area, divided from Melksham by the A350) were to merge into the Town I feel that our voice would carry less weight and that the Town may prosper at their rural expense.</p>	<p>I do not consider that it is true that the urban footprint to the south of the town has also expanded linking Berryfield and Bowerhill. Our parishes are physically separated by the by-pass. The needs of Berryfield residents are different to those of Melksham Town and my opinion is that we need representatives who understand first-hand the needs of our small, semi-rural community. If the Town Council is looking at Berryfield just as a place to use for further housing development then that shows no commitment to the needs of our own community. I see no reason why we should be sacrificing the way of life that we bought into when we moved here 11 years ago in order for the Town to secure more agricultural land for development</p>	<p>I'm proud of the unique make-up of our local area. To merge the Town with the Parish Councils would in my opinion homogenise the area, resulting in a characterless dormitory urban sprawl</p>



101	Resident	Agree A						The two areas (Melksham Town - urban area; Melksham Without- rural area) have completely different community identities and interests. A unified council cannot possibly cater for the needs of such diverse areas.	The two areas are completely different, Melksham Town being an urban area and Melksham Without being a rural area. A unified council cannot possibly cater for the needs of such diverse areas.	The system as it stands works well and should be left alone.
102	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)				Melksham town council serves an urban are. We live on the outer boundary of Melksham Without in a rural area some 2 miles from the town centre where our needs are quite different. We do not really identify with the town; indeed we tend to use Devizes for the shops, the library, the market and the bank and socialise in Seend, our nearest village. There is no benefit or interest to us to join a council called New Melksham Town Council where we will be subsumed. No change!	The merger would create a large unitary council. Based in Melksham it would necessarily give priority to the stronger urban needs with Melksham Without in a secondary position. A sort of north/south divide. I consider this would leave residents in melksham without less effective government of their area where they currently have a council that is specific to their area and responds to the particular needs of residents providing cohesion.	I consider this an opportunist attempt by Melksham Town Council to grab an adjoining council area to expand their influence, control and power which does not provide any benefits for local residents. The two council system works for residents and no change is required or needed
103	Resident	Agree A	Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)	Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)			We feel that a merger would inevitably lead to a conflict of interests and that the voice of our parish council would no longer be heard, because urban town councils and rural parish councils have different priorities.	It is significant that the proposed merger has been put forward by the town council who have recommended a central community hub. In our opinion this would not be compatible with community interests as a whole and the effect would be that of a take over rather than a merger.	We consider that we are currently very well served by our parish council and that the proposed merger would bring not advantages but a genuine risk of being swallowed up in a larger authority.
104	Resident	Agree A						Melksham without are more interested in and suited to the needs outside of melksham town	Melksham without are better suited to the needs of out of town areas	
105	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)				Bowerhill has its own village hall, playing fields and other leisure outlets I have always valued the village identity as opposed to merging with the town	Melksham without has without doubt ensured effective and convenient local governance and our preferences have been taken into account	Do not feel either Wiltshire council or town council have taken residents views into account in the past and do not give fair service
106	Resident	Agree A			Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)			I don't understand the question. I want to live in the village of shaw, not melksham. I have lived here since 1973 and enjoyed village life. I don't want to be merged with melksham.	I don't understand the question. I don't believe the merger will be any advantage to shaw and Whitley	Bigger does not mean better
107	Resident							I have lived in the village of Shaw for 20 years and very satisfied with the running of this community as it is. No interest or desire a merger with Melksham	In Shaw & Whitley we have an Effective and convenient local governance. Absolutely no need to merge with Melksham!!	I/we have chosen to live in and associate with the village of Shaw and Whitley. Not Melksham!! We totally disagree with the proposed merger with Melksham.

108	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	Melksham Town is an entirely different from the surrounding villages/countryside with different needs & objectives. They should be kept separate to respect these differences.	If there is an amalgamation then the villages will be ignored in favour of the town every time, councillors are elected to represent their constituents after all. The villages are already the poor relation when it comes to services - broadband, response times, public transport etc. When Town & Without need to co-operate they already do. Centralisation is normally a disaster & concentrates power in the hands of a few, look at Wiltshire Council taking over the Districts - a black day for democracy.	Democracy & the decisions taken should be as local as possible so that the local electorate feel empowered & engaged. An aside; the Melksham Without changes were together but this proposal, which is much more important, was no where near them. I nearly missed it not realising it affected Melksham Without where I live. Why wasn't it next to them & flagged up for what it was?
Page 490	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	Melksham Without Parish Council has a unique understanding of the distinct character of the 5 separate villages/areas and rural hinterlands in the Melksham Without Parish and that the dissolution of the Parish Council and the creation of a new Council with the Town & Without parishes together will mean that the separate, distinct identities of the villages of Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Berryfield and Bowerhill will be diluted and threaten their community cohesion. A cohesive community is one where there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities.	Currently both share the same unique understanding and provide adequate and effective governance. We do not want a merger!!	Volunteers and members are already stretched beyond resources, don't add extra pressure!!
110	Interested Party	Agree A				Disagree	As you have pointed out the community is functioning extremely well under the current governance if it aint broken dont fix it!	Melksham Without Parish Council argue that the proposal of merging Melksham Town Council with Melksham Without Parish Council would not meet the LGBCE guidelines (Clause 114) (detailed in Melksham Withouts Winter Newsletter in Melksham Independent news & wld not be in the overall interests of the diverse communities. In my view the proposal (to just move new housing from Parish into the Town) is far more relevant. By new housing I take this to mean the Barratt David Wilson development known as the Hunters Wood, & the new Barratt Homes Dvpt known as Sandridge Place (north of Sandridge Common SN12 7JR) Housing estates consisting of more than a handful of dwellings are by their nature urban. MWPC also question question the view that a comb	
111	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)		Disagree	I think the identity of the villages within Melksham Without PC would be lost and Melksham Town would become the overarching centre	The MWPC is effective in administering the needs of the community but is dominated by the area of Bowerhill. The MWPC offices are located at the most remote point in the Parish (in Bowerhill) but hopefully upon completion of the planned campus the offices can be relocated and more central to the surrounding MWPC. Melksham Town Council plans to remain within the existing Town Hall	Unfortunately I do not think Melksham Town Council is very effective in serving the community. My view is that parish / town and county councillors should not have seats in both types of organisations.
112	Resident	Agree A				Disagree	Requirements of Melksham Without are different from Town.	Requirements of Melksham Without are different from Town	

113	Resident	Agree A				Disagree		shaw and whitley would no longer be supported		
114	Resident					Disagree				Don't want to change
115	Resident					Disagree		It is fine the way it is	This is just a way of raising costs to be passed onto residents	The councils are looking for ways to raise funds - many residents are living with a struggle as costs rise but pensions do not
116	Resident					Disagree		I do not wish to become part of a ridiculous expansion of melksham. shaw and whitley has its own unique identity which would be lost if this merger took place. I chose to live in a village because it provides the environment that suits my way of life.	The parish council understand the requirements of maintaining village community life. The expansion of melksham has occurred without due proper consideration of inadequate roads, health facilities. the town centre is dying because of out of town development.	leave the current situation as it is. the parish council serves local residents well. i do not wish to become a resident of a suburb of melksham. The survey and its questions are unnecessarily vague and complicated and is probably written this way to deter people from responding to it.
117	Resident					Disagree		To keep the identity of melksham without	The parish of melksham without is very effective, looking after the needs of people living in the parish	(Note from admin: This submission stated it agreed with merger proposal C, but this was the town council's proposal C - 'the moving of new housing from parish into town', which is agreeing with proposals 5/9 and 6/10.
118	Resident	Agree A				Disagree		The existing melksham without councillors do an excellent job. Bowerhill is a separate community from melksham and is no different to areas such as berryfield, shaw and whitley.	I believe a new combined council would not devote the time and resources to areas covered by melksham without	Melksham Without have agreed that the areas covered by hunters wood and blackmore should be transferred to melksham as they are more closely aligned with the town (note from admin, this is support of schemes 5/9 and 6/10. the submission stated it was in response to 11, but is commenting on scheme 24. a separate comment which was related to scheme 11 has been logged separately)
119	Resident	Agree A						Improve efficiency and decrease costs.		
120	Resident	Agree A						MWPC do a fantastic job, proactive in their approach, constantly keeping residents updated, work hard to maintain and improve, we don't want to loose our rural connections and open spaces.	MWPC do a fantastic job, proactive in their approach, constantly keeping residents updated, work hard to maintain and improve, we don't want to loose our rural connections and open spaces.	
121	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)				A fully merged council would enable the local area to have a much clearer voice when applying for public funding taking in all local areas consideration and tendering for bigger and better projects. We'd be able to tender for more funding which could be used for real change.	Efficiency savings would be made therefore allowing public funding to be spend on more necessary projects.	You will need to listen to each respective council for what they hope to achieve based on them remaining independent from melksham and offer them more than there current ambitions to get them on board, i would be happy to help with this.

122	Resident	Agree A						The identity and interests of the "outlying" villages are different from those of the town and should be handled separately.	I don't agree that big is better. It will be more difficult to hold to account those who represent us.	
123	Resident	Agree A							Shaw, Whitley & Beanacre are grouped away from the main Melksham area and not impacted by the new housing developments and are also a separate community.	
124	Resident							Don't understand it - where is the proposal?	Don't understand it - where is the proposal?	
125	Resident	Agree A								
126	Resident	Agree A						combine the whole area as part of Melksham to reduce the confusion and double requesting from town and main council	combine the whole area as part of Melksham to reduce the confusion and double requesting from town and main council	
127	Resident							Shaw and Whitley is a discrete and thriving community, with strong identity. Whilst I do not wholly object to options (C) or (D) the areas of Beanacre and Blackmore are more 'rural' in nature.	Shaw and Whitley already has a strong community action group which would likely become the hub of the parish council.	
128	Resident									
129	Resident	Agree A						the town and local communities are closely linked.	It makes sense having an overarching town council to look after local decisions, as they better understand the needs of the area.	
130	Resident									
Page 492										
131	Resident						Suggest an amended merger proposal	Our local councillor is from Shaw, and GWG is aligned more to Shaw and Whitley than Melksham town	The seperated Shaw has Whitley parish would be able to deal with its own affairs; as they do not form part of the Melksham 'town' and its associated problems	By moving GWG into Shaw/Whitley Ward-it would encourage expansion of Shaw school and reduce school run traffic into Melksham. The catchment for Melksham oak also needs reviewed as its on the wrong side of town for Melksham without. With reduced bus services and unsafe cycling/walking routes for children it would be more appropriate to have Shaw and Whitley under the catchment of Corsham School.
132	Resident	Agree A						Option A would make sense.	Option D would make sense.	No
133	Resident	Agree A						The urban area needs to be under one council as it will increase the power of the council to deliver for the residents of Melksham	The rural area will remain rural whilst the urban area can be administered from the Town Hall in the centre of the Town. So many residents do not understand the difference between the two council and come to the Town Hall for help and Advice even if they live in the parish	CIL spending and allocation is a major issue. The parish seems happy to take the CIL expenditure and spend it for their residents. Once the houses are built they want them transferred to the Town but won't spend the CIL to enhance the lives of the new residents.

134	Resident	Agree A							Reduction in the number of personnel managing a geographical area, better coordination within a greater area & hopefully lower council tax,.	Effective governance means ability to make and implement beneficial decisions quicker. Equally, a more cost effective structure.	This survey was written by someone who is familiar with the process and issues; to the average local the language and presentation can be impenetrable. I recommend making the point up front, simply and clearly. Equally, when presenting options give an indication of what it will cost and to whom.
135	Resident										
136	Resident	Agree A					Suggest an amended merger proposal	The parishes all currently contained outside and unaffected by recent Boundry development in Melksham and its immediate Boundry with Melksham without should remain outside of Melksham town council. This should include our Bowerhill and Berryfields as they are separated from the town by major A Roads.	Melksham Town Council lacks officer led decision making, infrastructure of staff and finances to support such a vast inclusion of residents, especially as they continue to take on more responsibility from Wiltshire Council.		
137	Resident	Agree A						Would bring into effect economies of scale and prevent duplication of effort	As response to Q63	No	
Page 498	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)				Makes economic sense, gives the town and district greater prominence	Removes duplication of beauracarcy, greater impact of enlarged unified area	The need to be cost effective and efficient	
498	Resident							Don't want the area to be too large.	Quicker decisions are made by smaller councils.	We need our local needs catered for.	
140	Resident							In Option A the merged Melksham Council would include rural and urban areas, which could have different needs. But working together in a larger group might help bringing understanding and compromise which might result in better outcomes for both the rural and urban area.	I believe that strategic planning for the whole Melksham area would be better served by Option A Full merger of Melksham Twin and Melksham Without.	I believe that planning for Climate Change and Sustainability would be easier to achieve with Option A	
141	Resident			Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)				I agree with option A as i think it would benefit the town just becoming one parish and that it would make it more convenient when melksham grows due to more houses etc	melksham town would become the hub for melksham and surrounding villages		
142	Resident							agree - better use of resources	cost savings important and skills shared	it is important that it would be a new council, not an actual merger	
143	Resident	Agree A									
144	Resident	Agree A						Residents of Shaw have an identity of their own, historically and geographically visit Melksham and Corsham	Simplify, economise and empower	Bowerhill, Blackmore, Berryfields all use Melksham Town services and visit town more than the other way, or more than another town. As a Taxi driver, the residents habits dictate their identity	

145	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)			Better dealing of funds for the community	wiltshire council are out of touch of local needs	
146	Resident						This is an opportunity both to save on overheads and to unite for the common benefit of all Melksham residents and businesses. The rapid pace of housing and industrial development has blurred former boundaries of communities to the extent that one Council would best serve all communities, in my view. I would think most "Without" residents/businesses use the town centre facilities and a combined Council would ensure adequate funding for essentials such as public conveniences and parks.	A combined Council would provide cost savings on personnel and should also present savings through larger contracts being let, e.g. for grass-cutting. I would hope that having all Councillors debating in one chamber would streamline local decision-making.	A merger would allow economies of scale on many fronts together with a streamlined Council representing one Melksham for all.
147	Resident	Agree A					I believe that Melksham Without is an archaic council and as it forms part of Melksham, it should be included under Melksham Town Council. I consider that I live in Melksham, not Melksham Without. Likewise, I consider Shaw & Whitley to be separate from Melksham and they should not be included under the Melksham Town Council.	I believe that local council activities could be better coordinated if controlled by the one body. There is duplication in the present system which will lead to duplication of costs.	
148	Resident						Options A & B would leave shaw with considerably less funding and potentially higher council tax		
149	Resident								
150	Resident						The close proximity of the parishes in question and their expansion has eroded geographical boundaries to the extent that the combined area is considered to be a single community rather than separate ones.	[1] A single consistent administration covering the whole area. [2] Economies of scale. [3] Elimination/reduction of areas/issues where more than one parish has an interest/role/responsibility.	
151	Resident	Agree A					As the area is expanding rapidly, despite the lack of infrastructure and decent planning that one might expect! We desperately need a unified decision making body to protect our interests...	Having two councils is a waste of money and effort, effectively doubling the bureaucratic process and costs, when one unitary body would be both less expensive and more efficient...	
152	Resident						I have lived in melksham for 21 years and have never known weather I am melksham with or melksham without council. Therefore they are not making an obvious or notable difference. I have lived in 3 different houses in melksham. Improvements could happen much easier for those in the boundary of both if it is merged and there is no arguing over who is responsible. Especially in relation to new builds. Should make melksham voice stringer to Wiltshire council with one voice and make sure melksham gets the infrastructure it deserves.	Segregation melksham weakens our position to get better outcomes from Wiltshire council. The need is for effective management.	From how I read the financial page it will cause the local part of council tax to double? This cannot be right? Surly as a part of a merger some cost savings could be passed on to the bill payer?
153	Resident						Bowerhill has grown to the extent that it is more akin in identity to that of urban Melksham, but the villages mentioned should still have a separate voice suited for a rural community	Bowerhill has grown to the extent that it is more akin to the urban Melksham area	

154	Resident	Agree A					Full merger is required and new parish leaders appointed.	Full merger is required and new parish leaders appointed.	Potential cost savings
155	Resident	Agree A				Suggest an amended merger proposal			
156	Resident						It makes sense to strengthen the links that already exist between the two churches (and communities) in Shaw and Beanacre	It must be far more cost effective to have one council for all of urban Melksham which includes Bowerhill and Berryfield	The governance and management of MWPC is far far more effective and well regarded by residents than that of the Town Council, so hopefully the former's good practices will carry forward when the two councils are dissolved and recreated as one, preferably based in the new Campus building at Melksham House
157	Resident						All people across both current areas benefit from all facilities in the Melksham area so it makes sense to combine both councils.	Of course it makes sense to have "one council to serve the whole of Melksham" to reduce duplication, to simplify administration, to combine efforts, to make Melksham Council more significant in Wiltshire, to reduce and to share costs.	
Page 495 158	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)			The areas of Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre have a distinct cultural identity, which is separate from that of Melksham. They have local interests that are well served by local groups and setting them up as a separate parish council would strengthen this.	The areas of Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre are physically separated from Melksham and it would clearly be more effective for a distinct local area to have distinct local governance.	Many of the people living in Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre are descendants of families who have lived in these villages for over a hundred years and strongly value their separate identity.
159	Resident						to support the very reasons stated in the Response to Scheme 24 made by the Melksham Town Clerk	to support the very reasons stated in the Response to Scheme 24 made by the Melksham Town Clerk	
160	Resident	Agree A					form a united unit so all decisions benefit everyone	to have a more organised area	
161	Resident						Combined area is more cohesive	Fewer councils and less admin overhead should reduce costs	No
162	Resident						Melksham Town is the natural hub for surrounding area and draws in folk from outlying villages for business and pleasure	The main seat of local governemnt is Melksham Town Hall. The town is expanding and the Town Council needs to be able to control its boundaries effectively. At present the boundaries constrict and significantly reduce the effectiveness of governemnt. Looking at the maps it is patently obvious tat the current set-up is way out of date. It is ridiculous that a rural parish, in this case Melksham Without, is so set-up that it effectively throttles the natural growth of Meksham Town. Issues that occur on the boundaries lead to endless disputes; this must cause much costly additional work and social tension and is all in all extremely inefficient. When I came to Melksham 18 yrs ago I was staggered when I saw the nonsensical boundaries.	WC should look to the future. If the boundaries are not amended to take into account growth for the next 100 years, minimum, the issue will keep re-occurring and frester in both communities. It needs sorting out once and for all !
163	Resident	Agree A							

164	Resident	Agree A					save money		
165	Resident								
166	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)		Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)		It's all part of Melksham and they use the facilities of the town	One office and staff in one place seems logical	Any merged Council should be controlled by Independent members
167	Resident						It's all part of Melksham and they use the same facilities of the town	One office and staff in one place seems logical	It just seems right to have everything in one building with one lot of staff
168	Resident								
169	Resident						Cost savings for both parishes.	More efficiently	no
170	Representative						When selecting a place to live I chose to live in a village. This was due to lower density housing and a rural aspect. In recent years the town of Melksham has grown beyond all expectations. The density of housing is high and pressure on local resources has increased. Whilst I do see the benefit of having a single council managing the whole Melksham area I do worry that the views of persons in the smaller communities will not be heard and that pressure for housing will just see Melksham spread out and absorb the villages.	Whilst I would love to see a single council managing the whole of Melksham (from an efficiency perspective) I do think that the smaller rural voice may not be heard in favour of the urban majority.	
171	Resident							Savings on costs	
172	Resident				Agree D (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre, Blackmore)		-o0o-	-o0o-	-o0o-
173	Resident						It will be more cost effect to have one council		
174	Resident						There are presently petty squabbles between the Town Council, Melksham Without Council and the Parish Council which would be eliminated with everyone working towards a common community identity and interests	One merged council would (hopefully) streamline the costs involved - one council, one clerk, one layer of administration with more funding then available for governance and projects	It's time for the whole area to accept that a common goal is needed, rather than the divisions that currently exist and that the streamlining of services should (technically) free up funds to enable more of those funds to be put directly into the overall governance of the area, new and existing projects which serve the whole area and a better sense of oneness
175							All under one banner	Equal share of cost benefit	
176	Resident	Agree A					Whilst appreciating each area wanting to retain an individual identity at village level, its not practical and is confusing for newcomers who do not know the history.	A single council would be local and should eliminate duplication of roles	
177	Resident						Better use of resources and a single community	Better use of resources and a single community	



178	Resident	Agree A						I do not think Melkshams identity will be negativley effected.	Melksham will have more say from a combined position .	
179	Resident							f all residents wish to use the facility presently under Melksham, (Within), then they should embrace being part of Melksham as an integral part of their identity.	Centralisation on a local government scale can only make sense in terms of greater efficiency and economic equality.	
180	Resident									Allowing Malksham to develop as an urban area while retaining the rural atmosphere and outlook of Shaw and Whitley and also Beanacre Parishes is a delicate and important part of these plans.Maintaining the balance of both environments is essential to the wellbeing of both.
181	Resident									
182	Resident							Integration is in the best interests of the community	Splintering to smaller units may not serve residents in those areas as effectively as integration	Not now thank you
183	Resident									
184	Resident	Agree A						Community better served by one council .	More control over further development of area	One council has more power to stop over development of area and improve services
185	Resident	Agree A						I feel Shaw and Whitley are smaller and have different needs to the other areas of Melksham and would therefore benefit from their own parish.		
186	Business									
187	Resident							I think it would be more beneficial to have one authority.	One council is quite sufficient.	
188	Resident							Due to increased building - Town has virtually merged into Without, if wiltshire Council can merge so should Melksham	Always thought that having 2 sets of everything is not cost effective	The huge area covered by Wiltshire has one Council. The smaller one of Melksham has 2 - not cost effective for tax payers
189	Resident	Agree A						The boundaries between older villages and Melksham along with the infilling by new housing developments has resulted in a blurring of the different communities. The villages will continue to have their own identities but it would be good to also promote the broader community of Melksham as a whole. d istinctions between communities.	It would be beneficial to take advantage of more government funding as a larger area to improve central services and facilities for all residents.	If this incorporation of Melksham and Melksham without lead to finally some progress on the project to develop the Melksham house site for sport and community use that would be a huge gain for the town as a whole.
190	Resident	Agree A						SHOULD SAVE MONEY	SAVE MONEY	
191	Resident	Agree A					Suggest an amended merger proposal	no personal interest really everyone to their own	Governance requires to be available to all with effective and decisive reasonable solutions to many unexpected day to day problems and enquiries	None at the present

192	Resident							they all should be common if not then how can it work?	It should save on duplication if not why?	Not having lived in the area for a substantial time, I find it hard approving the scheme. unless you intend to build a monster council that does not have good control. Larger it is the harder I can be to maintain control
193	Resident								Believe Melksham would be better served if the town centre and outlying areas are better co-ordinated (for example better cycle routes)	
194	Interested Party	Agree A								
195	Resident							Beanacre and the North Wiltshire section from the station northward are equally affected by any bypass. Any pedestrian access between these areas as part of the bypass will be equally affected and should be represented by the same council	The voices of the Beanacre/North Melksham area should be in the same council as these are closely connected, more than the connection with Shaw and Whitley	No
196	Resident							More representative of the whole area	More fair and cost effective	Emphasis should be given to maximise efficiency, co-operation and value for money
197	Resident							makes sense to be to only have one broad for the whole area	makes sense to be to only have one broad for the whole area	
198	Resident									
199	Resident							The fact that the areas have merged, and the community facilities all being within the town, it makes sense to give the without residents a sense of belonging	The two areas have physically merged together, it makes no sense for them not to be politically merged.	The cost of running two areas, with two structures must surely be a large consideration.
200	Resident	Agree A						Better support for the interests of all residents	Expect better considered decisions on our future and more say with Wiltshire Council	
201	Resident							Growth & less separation	Less bureaucracy	Be decisive
202	Resident							Living in the relatively small Berryfield community & still very rural I want it to stay that way & not be part of Melksham town council. I was not happy that planning permission had been granted to the east of Semington Road, because I have only moved here recently. We should be cutting down on pollution & not expanding the town on open farmland to create more problems for our future.	Local government needs to think again about merging & no doubt putting up our taxes because of this? A number of people are living on low wages & this will not help them or myself	I hope that option C is for the merger of the new building sites to the east of town as this is not very clear on this form? if this includes Berryfield I am not in agreement with any
203	Resident							I think smaller villages needs should still be considered if joined with the town, plus a bigger council will have economy's of scale to give us all greater value for our tax.	As per above.	
204	Resident	Agree A								
205	Resident							A single larger town council should be more united than smaller, separate councils and able to have a greater influence with Wiltshire Council.	See comment for Q63	Disrepair of A350 road surface Semington bypass roundabout to Semington roundabout.
206	Resident									

207	Resident							The Town is growing rapidly and it needs clear boundaries and Identities and less confusion about who does what and who is responsible for the area.	If the Scheme enables clearer cohesion of the area with improved infrastructure such as more GPs/Dentists and so forth, then hopefully it should lead to better effectiveness of resources for the growing communities	My greatest concerns is that the Community of Melksham is growing so rapidly that the Police and other response services are not appropriate, but also the changes to the demographics also attracts higher criminal opportunities and all merging and other schemes needs to address this for the future.
208	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)					We think its daft having them as two separate areas when in reality they are one.	It needs one local authority in the area that covers all activities, daft having two.	
209	Resident							We agree with the view that some areas do have different needs being more rural. Both identity and interests are different so need a different porous	We do not feel that effectiveness will be improved by full merger. We cannot see home the 'rural minority' will be supported by a larger overarching group.	There is logic in combining the more urban areas which are geographical contiguous. We are concerned that if the rural areas are subsumed into Melksham then there would be further erosion of the Green Belt.
Page 490	Resident							The proposals make perfect sense to me and should help in raising the profile of Melksham within Wiltshire Council.	The proposals make perfect sense to me and should help in raising the profile of Melksham within Wiltshire Council.	No
Page 491	Resident							It allows the needs of the whole region to be coordinated, without competition between the town and the former parish without.	Reduces costs, allows a single body to act in the common interest of the Town and Without	No
212	Resident							This seems best for the future given the rate of developement in and around the town,	Will give the ability to the combined Council to deal effectivley with issues that are important to the area and its population as a whole.	
213	Resident							Melksham is growing we need to work together	We all should have are say	
214	Representative	Agree A					Suggest an amended merger proposal	The areas I mentioned previously would not sit well or have their interests best served if governed by an urban council.	Members representing town / urban areas might not understand the very different needs.	A straightforward merger would result in a council with 28 members, far too large a number to manage in meetings
215	Resident	Agree A						With the ever increasing house building, cost savings would benefit from the merger	Cost savings	All residents of both Melksham and Without utilise, what current facilities there are, therefore makes sense for there to be one council
216	Resident							Don't need to have separate councils to have a community identity	Far more effective to have one council coordinating policy for the whole community without artificial 'community' boundaries	

217	Resident	Agree A	Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)				More efficient distribution of resources and efforts to improve the area now that there is little or no distance geographically between the parishes	As above	
218	Resident							planning of the area could be more local than Wiltshire Councils which tends to ignore local views	Local issues	The issue of health care and transport for the elderly needs addressing for the future of the town.
219	Resident							We are one community, not Bowerhill or Forest but Melksham.	use the savings on staff to enrich melksham area and become stronger as one unit to fight for Melksham	
220	Resident							The existing Town & Without Councils, access health care transport and education within the 'Town', therefore any decisions should be made for the benefit of the 'whole' community not sections as can be currently the case	House building is focused in Melksham without, while services are centred mainly in Melksham Town. The benefit of one council will be able able to make decisions effecting the whole community not sections which could be the outcome with the current setup	
221	Resident							With Melksham growing a second senior school is required and also investment in the town centre.	Having one council makes sense.	None.
Page 500	Resident							Surrounding area residents around Melksham use facilities same as Melksham residents do so why have two councils when you could have one. We'd all have community identity and common interest under the Melksham banner and be more cost effective to provide better services for all.	I think I have covered this question in previous answer	One town council one common aim to provide a better service for all.
223	Resident							Loss of Melksham Without devolved powers and influence on important decisions affecting Whitley and Shaw villages would result. The low number of Whitley and Shaw's councillors able to succeed in in exercising their residents views at Melksham Parish Council meetings would be severely limited as a much larger number of other councillors with no interest in the villages could overrule them.As the councils change and evolve and councillors change there is a high risk that current council policy will change in the future.Therefore undertakings and assurances given today to Whitley and Shaw will not be legally binding in the future. Examples of major concerns are below:-	1.Melksham Town Parish Council meetings would be able to exercise majority control over building land within Whitley and Shaw villages on the green belts separating them from Melksham and on the outskirts and within the villages despite the wishes of the residents and their councillors2. Melksham Town Parish Council meetings would be able to exercise majority control over locally derived income council tax and other income currently allocated to Whitley and Shaw. This is highly likely to result in significant impact on the local amenities, minor works and repairs..	
224	Resident	Agree A							Promote efficiency of local governance and effective delivery of public services across the new parishes.	Reassurance to constituents that current Melksham Without council tax charges will not be doubled to bring them into line with Melksham Town.

225	Interested Party	Agree A	Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)				A merged community should bring more cohesion to the decisions made in Melksham by one body and result in a reduction of administrative bodies/people to undertake the overall tasks within the community, thus saving overall costs for Melksham as a whole	More effective control of Melksham area as a whole part thus eliminating fragmentation and misunderstanding within the areas	Why not consider with all the new housing throughout West Wilts a new acute general hospital on land near A350 route by air ambulance. It would relieve hospital pressures on Bath & Swindon and cover Devizes & Melksham, Trowbridge, Westbury and Warminster areas, reasonable ambulance access quickly via A350 & A361. This suggestion should be seriously considered for the benefit of all
226	Resident									
227	Resident									it would have been east to complete sections 6, 7 & 8 had I been able to find the community governance review on the internet or Wilts Council website
228	Resident							It is hoped that the changes will mean that teh costs will be controlled better than in the past		Do not assume all have access to a computer
229	Resident							Reduction in the number of councillors	Reduction - costs. What is the cost of changing to new integrated system	
230	Resident							Community identity and interests will still be relevant and maintained locally	Stronger bargaining power, more effective representation with county	Cannot find the on-line survey link
231	Interested Party							I do not wish to become part of a ridiculous expansion of Melksham, Shaw and Whitely		
232	Resident	Agree A	Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)	Agree C (Shaw, Whitley, Beanacre)				I believe the merger would bring the community together as one.	Everyone in the area would be treated the same.	none
233	Resident	Agree A						I think a merger would give us greater bargaining power with local government and also national government, possibly giving access to more funding for projects that could benefit all the local communities in or around Melksham. I also think that these days, strength lies in numbers, smaller organisations have a smaller voice and, as a result, are less likely to be listened to.	It makes sense to me to have one governing body for the town and surrounds, so long as there is good representation from outlying communities so that they do not feel left out of the decision making process.	I do think that representation on any merged organisation should be proportional to the area being represented so that those individuals outside central Melksham do not feel disenfranchised. To gain their cooperation, they must feel that their voice is still being heard and their views taken into account in a fair manner.

										<p>More cohesion of residents and parish areas results in a better understanding by all concerned with less cost having one overall local management therefore containing costs to one accountable body overall</p>	<p>Cost saving by reduction of costs having one overall council body rather than three. more local understanding of one area in terms of administration and work undertakings also communal requirements. Total coordination of parish/council functions in line with residents requirements for the overall area and undertaking work which provides value for money (county seem to have ignored this due to costs over past few years) (Eg Id Verde and grass cutting quality)</p>	<p>Consideration of infrastructure in west wilts area is lacking with all the new housing in this area. Medically extreme pressure on surgery and acute general hospitals to cite one example. a new acute general hospital on land behind air ambulance would relieve this pressure for westbury, warminster, trowbridge, chippenham, devizes and melksham areas. also this is on main A350/A361 fast access roads to air ambulance site at Melksham.</p>
234	Resident											
235	Resident									<p>To give Melksham more of a presence that its size warrants.</p>	<p>Give Melksham council control of the whole of Melksham as a united whole.</p>	
Page 502												
236	Resident									<p>Melksham is a growing town, the housing growth though being located mainly in Melksham Without equally there are large employment sites also within Melksham Without's boundary.. Residents and employees of the town and without look to use the services and facilities offered by Melksham Town. Whilst this could be deemed unfair on the melksham Town residents who contribute through their council tax. There is a bigger issue in that the joint facilities at conception stage only residents in the town get to have a say in those facilities. Any consultation about town services often confused Melksham without residents often feel disappointed when they cannot participate in consultation or initiatives run by the town council. They are often co</p>	<p>There is a general confusion to many residents about which council they pay their council tax. There is often disappointment by residents when they are advised they cannot participate in or in some cases be consulted on town initiatives. This situation will only be exacerbated when Melksham Without relocate their offices to the back of Melksham's Town Hall, right behind the town council offices.</p>	<p>It would be great to have free and open access to all business's , community groups and employers without asking for permission to liaise so we can create a strong local economy and better community cohesion.</p>
237	Resident									<p>As a resident in Melksha Without I look to the town for all my services. WE do not have any community facilities in Beanacre save for a play park so we identify with tMelksham Town as our service provider.</p>	<p>It is sometimes confusing about which council we should deal with and many times it is unclear where without and the town separate. It seems to add another layer of bureaucracy to local government. in the wider Melksham Area. Surely together we would have a stronger more cohesive voice?</p>	

238	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)					More new housing estates are currently under development. All these developments adjoin existing housing in Melksham or the commercial and industrial premises on the large Bowerhill and Hampton trading estates. They are built on green field sites, which effectively closes the rural green buffer between Berryfield, Blackmore, Bowerhill and the town, and contributes to the further urbanisation of the entire Melksham local community. Wiltshire Council has long included Bowerhill with town for planning purposes. In order of size of populations by civil parish in Wiltshire, Melksham Town ranks as 7th and Melksham Without Parish is 17th. However, the combined total of one integrated Melksham Council (24,052) would rank as the 4th largest pop	Integration of Polling Districts into one integrated Melksham Council need not change the character of established local communities nor the expectations of residents. Lack of a consistent governance approach can lead to problems with decision making, and impact on services and facilities provided. A much stronger voice when decisions are being made about how and where Melksham develops for the future. Even though the combined Melksham population ranks the area as 4th largest within Wiltshire, there is no apparent consistent economic and strategic planning to provide essential employment facilities nor to alleviate local traffic congestion. An integrated strategic approach will be needed to take advantage of future economic and empl	
239	Resident							segregated area would have less influence on getting resources to meet its needs.	I council to be in overall charge of finances.	
240	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)					Melksham is one of the oldest towns in Wiltshire and residents, being proud of where they live, whether its Melksham Town or Melksham Without, generally refer to themselves as being 'from Melksham' without differentiating between the Town and the Parish. Originally, the communities identified as being urban and rural but this is changing. Melksham, is growing and the existing boundaries of urban Melksham Town and those of the surrounding rural parish Melksham Without, no longer reflect their original urban and rural natures respectively. I do not believe the current boundaries and corresponding arrangements are fit for purpose any longer and propose that a restructuring desperately needs to take place.	People in 'Melksham' do not see themselves as residents of either Melksham Town or Melksham Without parish. I believe they consider themselves 'Melksham' people. The local governance arrangements need to reflect this - preferably as a full merger which will future proof the arrangement as Melksham Town continues to grow. New residents to the town will always look to the town itself for services, wherever in Melksham or Melksham Without they live, so it is appropriate that the merger takes place to enable the levy finances accruing from developments to be properly utilised in the manner in which they are intended. A merger will also increase the efficiency of local governance and help eliminate locality confusion amongst local residents.	
241	Resident							Infrastructure and development must take into account the full geographic nature and population. A combined voice will provide better representation.	It seems sensible for local governance to be able to effectively influence development of economic areas and housing areas.	The area continues to be highlighted for additional housing and development. A better strategic overview would be achieved with joint council. Areas of bean acre, berryfield and bowerhill already feel like suburbs or the town as opposed to separate villages.

242	Resident							The melksham community is not restricted by boundaries. We are all one community, we use all the same facilities and support the same local organisations. The only thing factor that is preventing us from truly being one community is the current boundaries that separate us.	Right now the issue that many residents have is that they can't see the difference between either MWPC or the Town Council. Residents in the newer developments pay their Council precept to the Parish yet expect certain facilities from the Town. By abolishing both Councils and working as one we can be more cost effective in delivering administrative support and breaking down the barriers of "which Council is responsible for what"	No area of either parish will lose their identity as a result of a new Council being created. Each resident will still be represented by an elected Councillor. The expertise of the current staff of both Councils is greatly valued and should continue to be utilised.
243	Resident									Need to provide adequate number of schools and surgeries for expanding population
244	Resident							Recent development has overtaken traditional boundaries which no longer reflect reality.	More efficient representation is needed if services are to be provide to the whole community	The need for a sense of identity e.g. Bowerhill 'village' can be accommodated by new ward representation.
245	Resident							It seems reasonable to include the new housing developments in the town area		
246	Resident						Suggest an amended merger proposal	I am answering this letter with a view to hopefully have melksham town improvements: 1) Pollution is horrific 2) more trees - melksham m. place not enough trees 3) need small hospital 4) rail links to bath? 5) cleaner buses 6) surgery in town centre?	shop rates - too high	(Note from admin: this submission also made as a businss or commercial concern in the area affected)
247	Resident						Suggest an amended merger proposal			I found this survey very misleading, baffling and the form accompanying this most confusing (as did other melksham residents I spoke with). Had no idea what it was all about but assume from some passages it referred to melksham without/in merfer/ Lots of detail about what a CGR is, but no specifics about the particular issue. Very poor indeed. Most people did not understanding it at all. Many people don't have internet either.
248	Resident		Agree B (Shaw and Whitley)					Consider shaw and whitley to be still separate from townand will remain so for some time.	Maintaining separate voice for village areas	Increasing health and education provision for town
249	Resident					Disagree		Those of us served by Melksham Without Parish Council have different needs and interests from those living in Melksham Town.	Our pariish council understands these needs	It is important for people's mental wellbeing to feel valued and that their opinions count. This reduces stress and increases self worth. Therefore centralisation should be avoided for all our sakes.



250	Resident					Disagree	Utterly opposed to centralisation, as opposed to localisation, of government in all of its forms	'convenient' means conveniently close, and part of the neighbourhood. convenience greatly improves effectiveness	Status quo
251	Resident					Disagree	Bowerhill is a community that takes pride in the area and makes real efforts to keep the place tidy and all residents to have the facilities that they require	what we have works, therefore leave well alone	We do not want to be part of the town area as they will not allocate funding to areas outside the town centre
252	Resident					Disagree	(also responding as chairman of the charity - the whitley reading rooms). There should be more local governance not less! No way should these councils be merged> Melksham without works very well, rememebr the true saying 'if it's not broke don't fix it'. I have seen in the time I have lived here that melksham council wastes a lot of tax payers money, melksham without do not	Melksham council will just ignore the outer villages. I know all sorts of promises will be made, but it will not be carried through, having been involved in local government in many places before I have seen all the schemes and promises before and none are kept. This will be no different no matter what is said.	
253	Resident					Disagree	I attended the recent council meeting because I receive better understanding with my without councillors.	The town councillors don't listen to the residents, such as bypasse farmer's roundabout and now the cock up at the town bridge instead of raising the right pavement	The fact that melksham parish council is far better run than melksham town.

Scheme 29 Calne Without Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Agree	It is common sense that if you use facilities you should pay for them.		
3	Representative	Agree	I believe the properties affected identify more strongly with Derry Hill and Studley, and hence West Ward, then with Pewsham Ward. The existing ward membership is a historic anomaly.	If the properties affected are moved to West Ward, as proposed, then Local Governance will be more effective and their Ward councillors will be better able to represent their needs.	There is clear evidence that Derry Hill and Studley has benefitted from being part of the wider Calne Without Parish Council (eg funds arising from elsewhere in the parish being used to repair the scout hut). There is no evidence to suggest that Derry Hill and Studley will be better served by having its own parish council. There is a strong likelihood that the other parishes of Calne Without Parish Council will be badly affected should the proposals go ahead.
4	Resident	Agree	logical	it resolves anomalies	

					Derry Hill, Studley and Stanley area form by far a large community in terms of number of residents of Calne Without and should have its own parish council to stop distant residents the other side of Calne making decisions that do not affect them
6	Resident	Agree	This corrects a "gerrymandering" change of the 19th Century to distort voting numbers.	The properties and occupants from very much part of the Derry Hill community.	
7	Resident	Agree			
9	Resident	Agree	I would prefer a parish council which more closely reflected my immediate local area.	A smaller more local parish would be more effective in understanding local needs.	No
11	Resident	Agree			
12	Resident	Agree			
13	Resident	Agree	Merge Calstone and Blacklands with Cherhill and Yatesbury Parish Council		
15	Resident	Agree	More logical boundary location, suited to local needs	More logical boundary location, suited to local needs	
16	Resident	Agree	We identify more with Calne Town Council, we use all the facilities they provide and should contribute more to the provision of facilities		

18	Resident	Agree	My house is in the area effected by the proposal, and historically we have always been part of the West Ward of the parish council. Church Road is very much at the centre of the village of Derry Hill, the rest of the village being 'West Ward', so to rejoin West Ward and the Derry Hill community makes sense. We should never have been removed and relocated to Pewsham Ward in the first place!	Church Road, Derry Hill is central to the parish council warding system, and the councillors who represent me do so as part of the village of Derry Hill and Studley, not Pewsham, therefore I am strongly in favour of my house and others in Church Road that have been curiously left out of West Ward, returning to to their rightful place within the village.	
19	Resident	Agree	Proposal will improve local representation	Derry Hill has grown a lot in recent years and continues to expand. The proposal will improve local governance.	No
21	Resident	Agree	Makes sense as parish is growing and needs updating	Smaller area would hopefully be more representative of parishes views	
22	Representative	Agree		Sensible and logical change to boundaries.	
23	Resident	Agree			
24	Resident	Agree	the ares covered by these minor amendments have an proximity identity with the villages of Studley and Derry hill respectively, and more properly sit within the west ward	as above	
25	Resident	Agree	The scheme makes sense as the ward boundaries at present are confusing and need changing	Residents should be clear as to which ward they are in to encourage them to take part in elections	

					Regarding Scheme 40 we felt certain people were trying to bulldoze decisions by using a petition that all residents were not given the option to sign, hopefully this survey will prove we do not want the smaller parish
26	Resident	Agree	makes sense that houses in the fragmented area are now included in the West Parish		
36	Resident	Agree	It would seem the most sensible option. Having isolated properties in different wards does not make sense.	It would seem the most sensible option. Having isolated properties in different wards does not make sense.	
38	Resident	Agree			
39	Resident	Agree	I think Derry Hill and Studley are large enough to warrant thier own parish council. I know nothing about the other villages, not even where they are, so think they would be better off running thier own PC.	Unfortunately Studley + Derry Hill have taken the brunt of development in Calne Without for years as the councillors who represent the smaller villages always vote against it in thier villages. They should have an allocation of thier own. Having attended PC meetings I note that the councillors from the smaller villages contribute little or nothing at all. We know nothing about thier villages and they know little about ours.	

41	Resident	Agree	767 villagers voted for this proposal - that speaks for itself. We feel also that the rest of Calne Without are big enough to maintain themselves and would probably benefit by this move, i.e. more time etc on thier issues		We feel that the residents in Church Road should be included with Derry Hill parish, there are in the middle of the village and it is senseless to leave them and the residents on the Devizes Road tied to Pewsham - this needs to be changed
43	Resident	Agree	Seems logical to incorporate those properties which obviously are within or adjacent to the existing Parish envelope	The additional dwellings are more affected by Studley/Derry Hill issues than those concerning Pewsham	
44	Resident	Agree	It addresses a specific historic anomaly clarifying representation for residents of Derry Hill village, where many of the houses sit, who had previously been defined as part of Pewsham Ward.	It addresses representation consistent with location.	Inadequate space in survey to provide a comprehensive answer.
45	Resident	Agree	There is an historic anomaly in Studley and Derry Hill, where residents whose houses are in the centre of the villages are not on the electoral roll of the relevant ward in Calne Without Parish and therefore unable to vote in local elections. This needs to be rectified if we are to maintain a local democratic process.	To support the local democratic process	
46	Resident	Agree	Addresses historical anomalies placing dwellings within the boundary of the village	Allows appropriate representation aligned to location	

					Only that the views of residents(ref scheme 40) currently 95% of those canvassed must trump the views of current parish councillors who clearly on the this issue do not speak for thier communities.
48	Representative	Agree	These represent rationalisation		
49	Resident	Agree	I support the inclusion of houses in Church Road and Studley Hill into the west ward but why has this not been done before, have our councillors really not understood where the ward boundaries were or have they been happy to ignore it. Please change the boundaries as proposed but also include the houses on Devizes Road which are also part of Derry hill.		
47	Resident	Amend	All properties within a village should be within the same electoral ward	All properties within a village should be within the same electoral ward	
5	Resident	Disagree	It is to the detriment of the rest of the Parish, mainly rural	The Parish has always worked well despite it's shape around Calne Town	Derry Hill & Studley has approximately only half the electorate of Calne without Parish
8	Resident	Disagree	I disagree with the proposal as I believe that the formation of a Derry Hill / Studley parish (which is the end goal of this scheme) will damage and divide the community.		
10	Resident	Disagree	no need for change- just a money grabbing measure	no need for change- just a money grabbing measure	

14	Resident	Disagree	Although the new estates built I accept do bring a more urban feel to the area we haven't changed and all our activities and connections are still with the rural area, not the town	We do not need any extra governance because there are a few more houses and I feel well represented by those we have already	
17	Resident	Disagree	i feel that my community will be worse off under the proposed scheme		
20	Resident	Disagree			Infrastructure needs improving.
27	Resident	Disagree	Why does it need to be changed	It can only remain effective if local parishes are kept as they are	
28	Resident	Disagree	Believe local decisions effecting calne and calne without need to be taken in conjunction with each other		
29	Resident	Disagree	As Calne and Calne Without are neighbouring areas, I believe all decisions needs to be taken in unison		
30	Resident	Disagree	these will be diminished - Calstone will not have the same access to many facilities currently available, and historic ties with Derry Hill broken.	to split the Parish Council will lead to reduced efficiency, increased costs and bureaucracy. Calstone marginalised	
31	Resident	Disagree	Very satisfied with Calne Without as it is and the improvements to Central Ward and clearly represents my interests	Improvements to road speeds in Stockley, signposts to village, bus shelter etc all due to Calne Without PC as currentlr constructed	
32	Resident	Disagree	Its unclear via the maps on line what is fully being proposed and the reasons behind it.		



			This proposal would split the historic community in half, removing the rural elements of Calne Without which have historically been an integral part of the community identity		
33	Resident	Disagree			
34	Resident	Disagree	The proposal is not inclusive as it does not address the needs of the parish community outside Derry Hill/Studley.	The proposal does not offer any future governance arrangements apart from breaking up existing arrangements.	The proposal must offer a strong cost/benefit case and address the needs of all residents impacted - not just a subset.
35	Resident	Disagree	These proposals should be considered together, not as separate entities. The current Calne Without parish does not benefit from being broken up into separate entities.	Governance would be stronger if Derry Hill/Studley remained part the current, strong wider community.	As a resident, proposals 29 and 40 do not contain sufficient detail to make an informed decision. Both cases need to be made more robust and presented as a whole, not as separate proposals.
37	Resident	Disagree	Council tax will increase whether a person can afford it or not. It would also be detrimental to Calston in many ways as we have been informed by people of trust, how can you expect residents to pay increased charges and get less in return	This is effectively local democracy and as an old soldier I joined the army to protect democracy not destroy it. Leave alone as things are, it ain't broke so don't fix it	
40	Resident	Disagree	Calne without parish was founded 130 years ago and is defined by its historic links to Bowood Estate. After this proposed split we fear losing a huge chunk of our community identity as well as resources - school, pub, sports facilities, palygrounds. Division of a community is never a good thing	How can creating a second parish council, that duplicates so many processes and positions be effective? Double beurocracy, two clerks, two websites-all against a backdrop of ever tighter financial constraint	Calne without parish has worked and thrived for years. Tinkering and creating all this unnecessary cost seems incredulous - together we are stronger

	42 Resident	Disagree	Fragmentation will diminish resources and efforts. The Parish is well served. Splitting off wards will cause division not focus.	Current governance is effective, convenient, and representative. There is no need to disrupt this, which would lead to a diminishment of local, effective governance.	There is clear evidence that Derry Hill and Studley have gained from being part of the wider Calne Without Parish Council (eg funds arising from elsewhere in the parish used on the scout hut). There is no clear logic, or compelling case to suggest that Derry Hill and Studley will be better served by alternative arrangements. There is also a possibility that the other parishes of Calne Without Parish Council will be negatively affected should the proposals go ahead.
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Scheme 32 Pewsey Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			

Scheme 34 Wilcot 1 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Representative	Agree	Anecdotal evidence suggests that most residents of Sunnyhill Lane and Caravan Park regard themselves as part of Oare village. This proposal seeks to establish their views, and correct the line of the Parish boundry so that it reflects the percieved identity of the electors.	All residents of Sunnyhill are on the voters roll of Wilcot Parish, but the boundry currently cuts through the gardens of several houses at the end of the row. To correct this anomaly I support the proposal that the Parish boundry be reviewed, taking into consideration the wishes of the Sunnyhil residents, so that the dwellings fall entirely within either Wilcot or Pewsey Parish.	No
3	Resident	Agree			
4	Representative	Amend	Having canvassed the residents on the effected section of Sunnyhill Lane, it appears that the Wiltshire Council map is incorrect. All those houses contiguous to Hillview but showing on the Pewsey side of the boundary were incorporated into Wilcot Parish years ago before the Unitary Council existed. This is reflected in the electoral register and all those properties contribute to Wilcot's precept and have done for years. Those in that section of Sunnyhill Lane, Oare, identify with Oare, half a		I would point out that Parish Boundaries can be a tricky area leading to "tribal" conflicts if local identity is not fully considered. Wiltshire Councils failure to update maps to match electoral roles and precepts is an administrative issue. Your failure to correctly grasp and understand what Wilcot Parish requested relating to the boundary leaves this consultation flawed. I also object to the method and timing of this consultation with 7 days lost before I was informed and only 3 days notice
5	Resident	Amend	Your paperwork is unclear. There are allegedly 4 items relating to Wilcot, there is only one 'Governance Review' scheme 34 that relates to moving the boundary. This will impact the caravan park, not me, in terms of their council tax banding, therefore I cannot agree/disagree as it doesn't impact me, it impacts the residents of that area. Are there other documents/'schemes' that relate to the other issues outlining the potential impact of the changes?		
6	Resident	Agree	Stronger together	Parish would be a better size. Oare and Huish are too small alone.	
7	Resident	Agree	It seems a very good plan	It seems a very good plan	
8	Resident	Agree	Community cohesion and balance		
9	Resident	Disagree	I have lived in Oare for almost 28 years and want to stay living in Oare not Pewsey	My Council tax will increase and as an OAP I do not want this	Sunny Hill Lane is over one mile from Pewsey
10	Resident	Disagree			
11	Resident	Disagree	I want our address to remain in oare	I live on a caravan site with 39adress and want to remain in oare parrish	
12	Resident	Disagree			
13	Resident	Disagree	Sunnyhill Lane has always considered itself part of Oare and not Pewsey		
14	Resident	Disagree	We are happy and proud to be under Wilcot parish council. We have no easy pedestrian access to Pewsey. (no safe public footpath to Pewsey)	We are happy with the local parish council aims and objectives. We feel that our best interests will not be better served by Pewsey Council.	We live in a conservation area, and there is a very strong local community spirit and regard to parish needs and priorities.

Scheme 35 Wilcot 2 Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Agree			
3	Representative	Agree	The historic boundaries are irrelevant to local administration and are not conducive to unity of feeling and purpose within the combined parish. Although the wards were created to ensure equal representation on the joint Parish Council, in practice this does not happen due to insufficient interest from some villages within the parish. Sadly it appears that Huish, one of the oldest manorial parishes was "lost" without representation in the botched joining with Wilcot back in the 1990s.		I would point out that Parish Boundaries can be a tricky area leading to "tribal" conflicts if local identity is not fully considered. Wiltshire Councils failure to update maps to match electoral roles and precepts is an administrative issue. Your failure to correctly grasp and understand what Wilcot Parish requested relating to the boundary leaves this consultation flawed. I also object to the method and timing of this consultation with 7 days lost before I was informed and only 3 days notice
4	Resident	Amend	I can't find a scheme 35, i can only see 31?	see above	
5	Resident	Agree			
6	Resident	Agree	It seems a very good idea	It seems a very good idea	
7	Resident	Agree	Community cohesion and balance		
8	Resident	Disagree			
9	Resident	Agree	I agree with scheme 35 that the community perception of Wilcot, Huish and Oare villages as forming one Parish be officially recognised and recorded.	The current split of this small Parish into 2 wards, with 4 Councillors for the larger West ward and 5 for the smaller East ward, is confusing, unnecessary, and doesn't support the effective running of the Parish Council.	No
10	Resident	Agree	This ratifies the existing assumption made by all residents that Wilcot, Oare nad Huish are all in one Parish. The name change reflects this assumption. The ward merger allows the Parish Council to be represented as a single entity not two separate areas leaving out Huish as a distinct area altogether as is the case now. There has also been long standing confusion at Wiltshire Council about the boundaries of the wards any way.		This consultation is flawed, it was opened 11 days before residents were notified of its existence. Resident would be able to object to the consultation since they have not been given appropriate and timely notification of the proposal and so may have missed it altogether if away during the period of the consultation.
11	Resident	Amend	We are happy and want to stay with Wilcot & Huish	We want to stay with what we have had for years and do not want to change	why would we want to change what we have been very happy with for years

Scheme 37 Southwick Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	NA	Agree			
2	Resident	Disagree	This is part of Trowbridge. Separated by a long way from Southwick village by the country park. I thought you want to preserve the gap between our settlements not become part of them! Hands off our town.	Chipping away at the cohesion of Trowbridge town will undermine it and create a complicated and fractured governance system. The boundaries of the town should be decided by contiguous development.	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)

	3 Resident	Disagree	I would ask why Trowbridge would feel the need to take land from the Southwick parish...	my proposal, leave things as they are	Someone please question why this is necessary
Page 519	4 Resident	Disagree	From the perspective of geography, our community cohesion and identity, and infrastructure we're part of Trowbridge, not Southwick. We do not wish to become the dumping ground for housing developments which are undesirable in the centre of Southwick. My comprehensive submissions are being sent by post.		
	5 Resident	Disagree	I've never had anything to do with Southwick (apart from driving through it). I've always thought of myself as a resident of Trowbridge (lived her for 32 years) and do all my shopping, socialising etc in Trowbridge. If this goes ahead, we will be arbitrarily separated from houses very close to us and adjacent to us.	parish councillors and none of them has canvassed my opinion before submitting this proposal. The proposal specifies 'to include Church Lane, The Nestings and Old Brick Fields', but the map also includes Church Fields. Have those residents also been sent a letter? The letter didn't specify which scheme effected my property in Church Lane, and I	

6	Resident	Disagree	I consider the Southwick Parish Council proposal to take over Church Lane, Nestings and Old Brick Fields as utter nonsense	A most cynical motivation lies behind Southwick parish wanting to incorporate our area within its boundaries but ligistically and from the point of view of community cohesion, this proposal is totally indefensible	



Scheme 40 Derry Hill Online Survey Feedback

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Disagree	I believe the residents of West Ward have been well served by the current ward structure of Calne Without Parish Council and will not be better served by the creation of a new parish. Likewise the remaining wards of Calne Without Parish Council will be significantly and negatively impacted.	The current ward structure has clearly demonstrated that effective and local governance is being delivered to Derry Hill and Studley. If the proposals were to go ahead then the remaining wards of Calne Without Parish Council would find extremely hard to maintain effective and convenient local governance.	There is clear evidence that Derry Hill and Studley has benefitted from being part of the wider Calne Without Parish Council (eg funds arising from elsewhere in the parish being used to repair the scout hut). There is no evidence to suggest that Derry Hill and Studley will be better served by having its own parish council. There is a strong likelihood that the other parishes of Calne Without Parish Council will be badly affected should the proposals go ahead.
Page 521 3	Resident	Agree	I believe the parish of Calne Without was set up well over 100 years ago , to give representation to the small villages and hamlets around Calne. Much has changed since then, and the villages of Derry Hill and Studley have taken the brunt of large scale development. This has lead to an imbalance in the community, with the majority of the electorate living in Derry Hill and Studley, but that community not having the political representation it warrants. In other words, decisions are made which e	With the poulation of Derry Hill and Studley having grown as it has over the last 40 years, it clearly warrants a Parish Council of its own, with local councilors who understand local issues, and can represent their parishioners accordingly. I am stongly in favour of Derry Hill and Studley having a new and effective Parish Council of its own.	
4	Resident	Agree	This proposal appears to be the wish of the residents of Derry Hill and Studley. The communities of Derry Hill, Studley and Old Derry Hill are a very identifiable community and the decisions made concerning that community should be made by by local residents whom the parish has elected. I strongly support the recommendation	A single ward parish, with locally elected representatives makes much more sense, as does an uneven number of councillors. I strongly support the application	
5	Resident	Agree	Studley and Derry Hill forms approximately 50% of Calne Without households, but a minority of the councillors. Its are essentially "village dwellers" rather than dwellers of isolated rural hamlets.Indeed, the ward has essentially been identified for planning purposes as the only "large village" . We have inadequate voice in the current parish council, and the scheme would improve democratic legitimacy, control and involvement	The ward is already the greatest concentration of population outside the towns of West Wiltshire and due to planning policies will grow disproportionately relative to the rest of Calne Without. The number of households in the proposed two parishes would be smaller but sustainable - the level of interest in a parish which is directly controlled by the affected residents rather than dominated by rural dwellers, large estates etc would be higher. (evidenced by the submission of this scheme)	
6	Resident	Disagree	The current parish has made good decisions , and we feel if we become a smaller parish a smaller group of people will make the decisions , which in our opinion is not a good thing. We live on the outskirts of Studley and Derry hill and we feel that any decisions would not necessary be in our interest, more in the interest of Derry Hill and Studley....		Regarding Scheme 40 we felt certain people were trying to bulldoze decisions by using a petition that all residents were not given the option to sign, hopefully this survey will prove we do not want the smaller parish

7	NA	Disagree	The Derry Hill/Studley community is stronger as part of the wider, current parish.	Current governance works well with wide representation. The proposal is silent on future governance and offers no benefits.	As a resident, proposals 29 and 40 do not contain sufficient detail to make an informed decision. Both cases need to be made more robust and presented as a whole, not as separate proposals.
8	Resident	Agree			
9	Resident	Agree	We totally agree with this proposal because it enables the village of Derry Hill to have a positive say in how the village is managed i.e. to what is done where and what the villagers wish to happen in thier community for the good of Derry Hill.	We think if Derry Hill was a separate parish we would be able to effect a positive attitude within the community and encourage a more active involvement/agenda especially as teh village has grown considerably over the past years.	We feel that the residents in Church Road should be included with Derry Hill parish, there are in the middle of the village and it is senseless to leave them and the residents on the Devizes Road tied to Pewsham - this needs to be changed
10	Resident	Agree	It conforms with the requirements of the 2007 Act that Parishes should reflect distinctive and recognisable communities of interest with their own sense of identity and be viable as an administrative unit of local government. It is a natural progression reflecting the growth of Derry Hill and Studley over the last 40 years and the recent designation by Wiltshire Council that Derry Hill and Studley is a 'large village' with the attendant development requirements as distinct from the remainder of	The proposed parish (as well as the remainder of Calne Without) is entirely sustainable. Both have adequate numbers of voters - in the top 20 in Wiltshire - to provide effective governance as well as reflect community needs.	Inadequate space in survey to provide a comprehensive answer.
11	Resident	Agree	Following the growth of Derry Hill and Studley, we are now defined as a large village, the only one in Calne Without Parish, we need to have appropriate representation as a separate Parish Council. Over 70 % of householders in Studley and Derry Hill have requested this. If we retain the staus quo, we are in danger of being misrepresented and local democracy is affected	Misrepresentation and local democracy is endangered	
12	Resident	Agree	Fully reflects the growth and development of a distinct community with a recognisable identity.	Provides for effective representation of a distinct community with needs far removed from the time Calne Without Parish was created.	
13	Representative	Agree	In the case of Scheme 40 which has majority local support, which is in itself ought to be sufficient reason, makes a much needed adjustmement in voter:councillor numbers in the interests of parity with other wards and gives Derry Hill and Studley, dedicated representation		Only that the views of residents(ref scheme 40) currently 95% of those canvassed must trump the views of current parish councillors who clearly on the this issue do not speak for thier communities.

14	Resident	Disagree	The proposal ignores the interests of the remainder of Calne without parish. It also will not represent the rural part of the proposed parish as effectively as the current council as it will be so overpowered by the villages.	The current council provides effective and convenient local governance there is no need for change which will be costly and provide no significant difference to the decisions made and actions taken.	The views and concerns of the other parts of Calne Without parish and the fact that the split will leave the parish without a meeting place.
15	Interested Party	Disagree	I am concerned that this will dilute the effectiveness of Calne Without PC	this will leave Calne Without PC diminished and will not represent the rural areas which are currently looked after by CWPC	Calne Without PC looks after rural areas as well
16	Resident	Disagree	What will happen to the rest of Calne without parish council.	The parish council is stronger as it stands and it is more effective.	All the communities within Calne without parish council benefit from the council as it stands.
17	Resident	Agree	Derry Hill and Studley have grown to a large village and identifiable community over the last 40 years. There are no other links with the current parts of Calne without. Calne without is too big to identify with.	Enhance the effectiveness of first tier local government. As a large village, Derry Hill, studley and it's environs should have a parish council that focuses on the delivery of services and effective support which benefit the parish.	There has been a petition which has overwhelming support for the change of parish. Please listen to residents!
Page 523					
18	Resident	Agree	I believe a Derry Hill & Studley parish, being more local and compact, will respond better and be more sympathetic to local issues.	This is a case of 'small is beautiful' and a small local parish will respond better to the needs of residents & businesses in the area.	No thank you.
19	Resident	Agree	To keep the area as a recognised small community	As above	no
20	Resident	Agree	Derry Hill and Studley are growing villages with a clear identity and a strong community focus centred around the school, pubs, and churches. The remainder of the existing Calne Without parish feels remote and separate from our village. Many parts of the eastern wards feel closer allied to Calne than to Derry Hill and Studley.	Derry Hill and Studley have been identified in the Local Plan as one 'large village' and as such different planning policies apply here than to the rest of Calne Without. In particular, the 'large village' designation means that policies on housing allocations inside and outside the settlement boundaries are different in Derry Hill and Studley compared to the rest of Calne Without. It is therefore very important that we have better local representation in the future.	The Calne Without parish council considered scheme 40 at one of its recent meetings. One of the objections was that if Derry Hill and Studley became their own Council, the residue of Calne Without would not be a sustainable parish. The information sheets shows that the remainder has a population of 1076, rising to 1471 by 2024. That is self-evidently a perfectly sustainable population for a parish council.
21	Resident	Disagree	i see little community interest in moving to a new derry hill and studley parish.	i believe the parish councillors pushing this and calling at houses with petitions are not responsible to make decisions in our village. They have all stated their interest in having even more housing in studley, and the sites for these houses are ridiculous.	
22	Resident	Agree	The proposal clearly addresses the need of a discrete community and boundary which has formed since original boundaries were drawn up over a century ago	Local Government would be more focused, able to make local decisions impacting more directly on their local community, and be more directly visible and accountable	
23	Resident	Agree	we can make our own decisions for our own area	becomes more local and relevant	no

24	Resident	Agree	Fully supported.	More relevant to the focus of the local community		
25	Resident	Agree	The provision of a more local PC will create a far better entity to consider and deal with local matters. The current PC is far too widely spread.	Run more locally and by more local people	The current arrangement, whilst democratic across the wider area, appears not to be sufficiently representative at the more micro local level. The purpose of a PC is to deal with local matters and the proposal will improve the current situation.	
26	Resident	Agree	We should be represented by a more locally defined parish council	Specific parish council that recognises the needs of Derry Hill and Studley residents	The population in Derry Hill and Studley is growing due to new housing developments and this needs to be recognised.	
27	Resident	Agree	Agreement - much more focussed on Derry Hill's needs.	Agreement - governance will be by those in our direct community and not biased by councillors not in our area	Yes - please take account of the local petition with a huge percentage of residents supporting this. This is particularly important when the communication regarding this survey (letter from council) is poorly worded and not targeted at the audience. Many will be unable to fathom their way to the proposals let alone the survey.	
Page 524	28	Resident	Agree	This area now constitutes a discrete community and identity that should have it's own Parish Council	We are big enough to be in control of our own affairs as a discrete entity	We should be able to make our own decisions locally, not reliant on other villages several miles away
29	Resident	Agree	I believe Derry Hill and Studley Councillors should have sole decision on Derry Hill and Studley matters and not Councillors from further afield.	If the proposal is accepted having nine Parish Councillors that are solely dedicated to the interests of Derry Hill and Studley will be of great benefit to the matters that affect the villages. I do not believe it is right that Parish Councillors from other villages can have a say in what happens in a village they do not reside in and that will not affect them directly.		
30	Resident	Agree				
31	Resident	Agree	New housing in Derry Hill & Studley has merged the two communities into one with its own identity and interests	The needs of Derry Hill & Studley are different to those largely agricultural areas of Calne without.		
32	Resident	Agree	We need local parish councillors to represent local needs in such a fast growing community	We need people who really understand what is required at a local level.		
33	Resident	Agree	For the sake of fair and sensible democracy in the local community it make perfect sense to have the residents of Derry Hill and Studley to be fairly represented.	The local council should surely represent all members of the community fairly and not to have contentious issues held over them by local council because they are under represented so therefore cannot not have a fair say in decisions which may affect them		
34	Resident	Agree	To create a parish of Derry Hill and Studley would create a community of the two areas.	Local governance based in the community, By basing the ward on the community this feels like the right way to elect local councillors.		

35	Resident	Agree	It would be far more democratic to have Councillors controlling the requirements of the electorate who live amongst the people that they serve.	at present there are Councillors voting on matters that affect Derry Hill and Studley who do not have a connection with the village.	There are several Councillors that are stopping this proposal from progressing. I don't understand why they do not want to have autonomous control of their Council. I
36	Resident	Agree	Derry Hill (with Studley) is deemed to be a "Large Village", as villagers found out when a planning application for building 53 houses in Studley was passed. Therefore, this "Large Village" should have its own Parish Councillors to decide what is best for the village.	Councillors should have autonomy for deciding the best course of action for this large village.	
37	Resident	Agree	The current parish is too large.& most of the area is completely seperated from Derry Hill /Studley in terms of geography	My experience of local councillors is that they mostly represent the views of their immediate neighbours and dont usually consider the impact on villages outside their own.	
38	Resident	Agree	We should have a parish council made of local people that we know and can talk to about our concerns	Derry Hill and Studley population has grown considerably in recent years. We need to have parish councillors who are residents making decisions that affect our parish, rather than Calne Without councillors, the majority of whom live elsewhere, making decisions for Derry Hill and Studley residents.	
39	Resident	Agree	Village needs own council, so local people represent us.	Calne Without too spread out - people making decisions for us that don't live here.	
40	Resident	Agree	Derry Hill and Studley are a distinct settlement within the parish , the majority of the population, and in practicve our interests and meeting are dominated by the number of councillors from less densely populated parts of Calne Without with different needs.	The proposed parish would be small but sustainable because of the greater focus and relevance and voice for the residents in the Pewsham and West Wards.	
41	Resident	Agree	Will suit the parishes	Will be more effective	
42	Resident	Agree			
43	Resident	Agree	I strongly believe that The Derry Hill and Studley villages with the immediate area should have their own parish council	This will make for a more local, accountable and responsive parish council	
44	Resident	Agree	I think the proposal would help Derry Hill and Studley strengthen its identity further as a community to have its own Parish Council. it could also understand and represent the interests of the two clear groups of residents (from my contacts); home based (home workers and retirees) or those who travel some distance to work.	i believe that Derry Hill and Studley is large enough to support its own Parish Council and with 9 councillors could provide local and effective governance.	i think it is important to take account of the number of residents who support this proposal and have signed the petition.
45	Resident	Agree	The survey carried out demonstrates that the majority of residents of Derry Hill and Studley support this proposal. The proposal is likely to improve residents community interest and participation.	The Derry Hill and Studley residents will have a much stronger involvement in local governance as it will apply directly t. them.	
46	Resident	Agree	My reasons are very well stated in the "additional information" linked from Q85 above.	My reasons are very well stated in the "additional information" linked from Q85 above.	The fact the Parish Council as constituted chose to ignore the clear preferences those they supposed to be representing is enough reason on its own to support this proposal.
47	Resident	Agree			The vast majority of Derry Hill residents have voted to take back control of their local council away from the hands of other villages and vested interests

48	Resident	Agree				
49	Resident	Agree	Reasons for agreeing to proposal- have representatives that actually represent the local area for a change!!	As above	Yes- it is clear that some council officials have no respect for democracy in voting against the wishes of the local community as seen in the parish councils vote to oppose the proposal.	
50	Resident	Agree	In agreement. The new boundary is more in keeping with protecting the community identity. Also does not seem appropriate that councillors not living in the area are making decisions about the area.	Local governance should be local. The new boundary ensures this.		
51	Resident	Agree	To create a better balance of parish councilor representation in relation to the population	To create a better balance of parish councilor representation in relation to the population		
52	Resident	Agree	The parish is of such a size as the result of housing developments it warrants its own council and appropriate control over decisions relating to the parish			
Page 526	53	Resident	Agree	It will create a more cohesive parish council, not diluted by other cllrs who have no knowledge or particular interest in Studley and Derry Hill	Would create a hub for local communication as satin one place and which could allow it to take on more responsibility.	The current Calne Without PC is predominantly made up of Older White Males. Steps should be taken to ensure all groups, ethnicities etc are fairly represented.
54	Representative	Disagree	Calne Without PC is more effective as a group of communities. Derry Hill whilst looking after it's own residents will not be able to rely on help from surrounding areas	this will leave Calne Without PC diminished and will not represent the rural areas which are currently looked after by CWPC	Calne Without PC looks after rural areas as well	
55	Resident	Disagree	Derry Hill & Studley will be better served remaining in Calne Without, they will become insignificant if they break up Calne Without. I am in total disagreement with Scheme 40.	Calne Without Parish Council is very effective and for all the wards they do administer Effective and Convenient Local Governance.	Retaining Calne Without Parish Council as it is will be better for all concerned, the Parish is far stronger and can do more good for all the parishioners and it helps to safeguard against Chippenham and Calne encroaching on all the wards within Calne Without. I also would not be enthralled if Stockley (where I live) was forced to join Heddinton Parish Council	

56	Resident	Agree	Derry Hill and Studley deserves it's own control and say over local matters	Derry Hill and Studley deserves it's own control and say over local matters	
57	Resident	Disagree	I strongly disagree with the proposed Scheme; it would dilute the influence of Calne Without .	I strongly disagree with the proposed Scheme; it would dilute the influence of Calne Without.	
58	Resident	Disagree	I disagree with scheme 40 and want the boundary to stay as is with the existing parish boundaries.	I disagree with scheme 40 and want parish boundaries to remain as is. With any change this would dilute the influence of Calne without..therefore I STRONGLY disagree>	
59	Resident	Disagree	It is fine as is, community not that big, no practical benefit to most residents, why should Bowood be divided, unnecessary beauracracy/costs ongoing,if it 'aint broke don't fix it.	Will be no benefit / likely detrimental to vast majority, feel being done for wrong reasons, not benefitting normal people. Already managed fine with less overheads.	
Page 527 60	Resident	Disagree	See no reason to change, not significant community size to justify and will not benefit people long term, not needed admin / time / paperwork / confusion etc, working fine at present. Bowood split up unnecessarily.	Disagree as changes not to advantage of residents, complicating unnecessarily for everyone, done for minorities motives. Current setup working well. Calne v close to villages - Calne Without is accurate.	
61	Resident	Disagree	The councillors canvassing residents did not give a balanced view of the proposed new scheme. Their manifesto made no reference to the risk of increased council task under the new boundary proposal. In addition, I would like to note that the councillor who doorstepped my household persuaded my 17 year old son to sign the petition, giving him very little background as to why he should. The signature registered to my address does not therefore represent the views of our household.	Local governance is entirely effective as it currently stands. As a resident of Derry Hill for 23 years I have found the wishes of the local populous to be well represented by the current parish council, the boundaries in which it operates and as such I do not see any reason to change it. The proposal in my opinion will promote insularity which will not serve our community well in the long term.	More information should be provided to residents with regards the benefits/disbenefits of the proposal before any further decisions are made.
62	Representative	Disagree	Ideally a PC should be balanced between rural and suburban. The proposal is heavily weighted towards a suburban parish, in effect becoming a mini town council. Having the result of creating a Derry Hill and Studley Parish 'a small town council' leaves the remaining rural parishes to be absorbed elsewhere. How would they benefit? Some could be accommodated in Cherhill or Heddington or Bremhill, but it would result in an awkward fit. Sandy Lane in particular becomes a no man's land.	It seems bizarre the proposal is to unite the village elements Derry Hill and Studley and also embrace part of Bowood Park. This would appear to be an anomaly. Bowood Park is one entity covered by a Grade 1 Park status which has been ignored.	The existing Parish Council has the benefit of being a balance between urban and rural.
63	Resident	Disagree	It has no consideration for the rural areas surrounding Derry Hill & Studley. It excludes a group of rural communities which have for over the past century considered themselves Calne Without. It is divisive and segregates well established neighbourhoods.	As the Parish Council currently represents the suburban and rural residents, it reflects a balanced viewpoint,	The proposal excludes representation by Wards resulting in the inability to identify who is specifically representing the electorate.

64	Resident	Suggest an amended proposal	The current proposal doesn't deal with the remaining parts of the parish - will they form a new parish council or more practically be absorbed into neighbouring councils? Middle & East Ward share a rural identity with Heddington & Cherhill. I understand Derry Hill and Studley wanting to separate but they cannot be dealt with with in isolation and there must be a cohesive plan for the whole Parish and each Ward. It is possible.			
65	Resident	Disagree	It fails to address the needs of all the impacted communities in the current parish.	It does not provide consideration of future governance arrangements.	Wiltshire Council should canvass the views of all community members. The canvassing done only considers residents in Derry Hill/Studley.	
66	Resident	Disagree	The proposal is not inclusive of all residents in the current parish boundary. The needs of all residents must be taken into account - not just a subset.	The proposal is silent on future governance arrangements, with no benefits put forward.	Wiltshire Council should canvass the views of all current parish residents. As a Studley resident, I wish to remain part of a wider community, not just a narrow Derry Hill/Studley grouping.	
Page 528	67	Resident	Disagree	Our links with the current parish community are strong. The narrow-focused proposal weakens the community by severing bonds.	The narrow-focused proposal weakens governance by not having wide representation.	Proposals should be clear, comprehensive complete and concise before presentation to the public. The Derry/Studley proposal is sketchy and does not contain the essential information to make a sound evidence-based decision.
68	Resident	Agree	A petition of Derry Hill & Studley was in overwhelming support of this proposal. Democracy should prevail. I have no affiliation to Calne Without. Councillors from other wards who don't know the village should not dictate its future. The church magazine "Inspire Derry Hill & Studley Matters - The Parish magazine of Christ Church Derry Hill" only reinforces the sense of community within the two villages. Derry Hill is classed as a large Village and should only be represented by locals.	Calne Without is a large and haphazard parish. The recent consultation meeting highlighted the fact that the other Calne Without parish wards felt they could not cope without Derry Hill & Studley. It's hard to imagine why they could not. The splitting of the Parish would mean that more time could be spent on local relevant issues - more sensible for the various wards and the councillors who would be better informed. Sort the remainder Of Calne Without on the next round.		
69	Resident	Agree	Calne without parish is too disparate and has no real identity. Derry Hill and Studley form a clear community and have common interests that are quite different to those of the other parts of calne without	The 1200 residents of Derry Hill deserve to be represented by a council formed of councillors drawn from their area. The proposal's suggestion of a single ward would remove the undemocratic anomalies present in the uneven distribution of voters among current wards improving local democracy enormously.		



70	Resident	Agree	Derry Hill and Studley is now a well defined community with common facilities, amenities and interests - we need to be represented as such	Derry Hill and Studley not well represented by the calne without parish council - other councillors negative response to this proposal despite the overwhelming local support for petition demonstrates exactly why we need this	
71	Resident	Agree	Calne without is a load of separate villages with no identity. DH & Studley is a community. We have pubs, a shop and a post office. We share common interests	I agree with the reasons in the petition letter around better representation by a single ward for DH & Studley	
72	Resident	Disagree	I live in Fisher's Brook, a small settlement to the NW of Calne in Calne Without Parish (CWP). CWP is a large area surrounding Calne on all sides. Fisher's Brook lies between Calne and Derry Hill/Studley; I see them from my window and they are the part of the parish with which I identify. Derry Hill is where my polling station is. This proposal would cut me off from them.	Fisher's Brook is physically part of the Bremhill, Derry Hill and Studley geographic region. It forms a cohesive expanse of land to the N/NW of Calne and does not sit neatly with the rest of CWP.	I think the scheme should be turned down until more thought has been given to the ongoing situation for the area of CWP that lies to the N/NW of Calne. I think this area is an important gap and needs to be included in either the Bremhill Parish or the proposed Derry Hill and Studley Parish (otherwise it may be vulnerable to being absorbed into Calne Parish) and should therefore be considered at the same time as this proposal.
73	Resident	Agree	Our parish council should be local and based on an identifiable community which Derry Hill and Studley now represents	A new parish for Derry Hill and Studley, with members elected solely from our immediate local villages would be more accountable and responsive to our needs and help reinforce our existing community	The significant change in size of Derry Hill and Studley and the increase in population coupled with the wishes of a large majority of the community is a clear indicator a review is required.
74	Resident	Agree	Having studied the proposed scheme as it affects Derry Hill and its environs, councillors will be better placed to represent the interests of this growing part of North Wiltshire		
75	Resident	Disagree	The community identity of the existing Calne without parish lies in its shared character and interests. Throughout the Parish there are villages with modern housing developments and plans for further development, older housing and ancient buildings, similar business interests in farming and its spin off enterprises and other small businesses, churches, pubs,	The shared character and interests of the current Calne without Parish give it an identity which is currently governed effectively by its Council. The administration of the functions which are the responsibility of the current Parish Council is efficient. Duplication of the administration of these functions as proposed by Derry Hill councillors would be less efficient.	
76	Resident	Agree	I agree because the existing Calne WO parish has no local identity. it is just a ring around Calne , and the residents of Derry Hill and Studley have no links at all with those areas on the other side of Calne such as Calstone and High Penn. The Scheme would result in a sensible parish based on the now heavily populated and clear centre of Studley Derry Hill and would give much better identity and encourage greater interest and involvement in the parish council.	The current arrangement does not work because councillors from outside Derry Hill and Studley have little interest in important matters involving those two villages	the rapidly increasing population of Derry hill and Studley through recent housing estates is another strong reason why the scheme should be accepted

			Should the creation of DerryHill and Studley New Parish be approved the remainder of Calne Without PC would not be sustainable on its own therefore consideration should be given to the merger of the remainder of Calne Without to adjacent Parishes such as Cherhill and Yatesbury Parish before any agreement to the new parish of Derry Hill and Studley be given.		You cannot establish a New Parish without considering the affects on the remainder.
77	Resident	Suggest an amended proposal			
78	Resident	Agree	Derry Hill and Studley are a large enough community to be represented by their own councillors. Thus enabling the views of local residents to be better heard and supported.	As above, Derry Hill and Studley communities are of sufficient size to merit their own local governance.	
79	Resident	Agree	The existing parish is geographically large (approx.13km in length at its widest point) and comprises numerous communities and settlements. The villages/hamlets of Pewsham, Derry Hill and Studley form a more compact cluster at the western end of the parish. These three communities form a geographically and demographically compact unit, sharing little coherence or identity with the rest of the parish. I believe the interests of those communities would be better served by a separate Parish Council.	Clause 80 of the Boundary Commission document "Guidance on community governance reviews" states "It is desirable that any recommendations should be for parishes ... with a population of a sufficient size to adequately represent their communities and to justify the establishment of a parish council in each.. I believe this validates this proposal, as it would offer more locally based governance to support the interests of the local communities.	
80	Resident	Agree	I support the proposal for a separate parish Council for Derry Hill and Studley. This is what's been needed for many years, please do not kick this into the long grass. The rest of the parish are quite capable of having their own council and should no longer have power to influence things in our villages which have no links with Stockley, Calston or Lower Compton. Derry Hill and Studley will easily be able to support and run their own local council to the greater benefit of the community.		
81	Resident	Agree	I agree with the proposal on geographical lines.	I strongly disagree with the attitude of some of the councillors on how the electorate of Derry Hill and Studley should vote at the next parish elections	
82	Resident	Agree	At its formation the villages forming Calne Without were roughly equal in size and outlook. Today, the size of Derry Hill and its composition of mainly high density commuter properties, makes it different in terms of character and community outlook to the other villages. The interests of the residents of the proposed new parish, and also those of the villages remaining in the revised Calne Without parish, will be better served by them each having a council that represents their type of community	The current breakdown of parish council seats means it is possible for the views of Derry Hill and Studley councillors to be overridden by councillors from elsewhere who are unaffected by a proposal. For example, the application to build 53 houses at the Blount's Court was supported by the council despite the Derry Hill and Studley councillors and local opinion being against it. The current arrangements mean that local governance is failing and democracy is not being served.	
83	Resident	Suggest an amended proposal	Leave any decision on the proposal until after the council elections - thus giving everyone a chance to have a say including maybe wards outside (C W ) who may be able to accept remaining areas such as mine.	I am concerned that not enough disalogue has taken place between all bodies concerned with this proposal. It seems to be that the wishes of one side of the proposal (ie Derry Hill/Studley) is being considered leaving the remainder of calne without ignored.	
84	Resident	Disagree	See comments in attached sheets (admin note - stage 2 comments 28)		

Scheme 41 Chippenham 4

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Agree			
Page 53	Interested Party	Agree	For too long houses that have been built on the edges of Chippenham have not been included within the town boundary which causes confusion. All land on which all of the new housing developments are being built should be moved to be included within the town boundary before the houses are constructed and occupied.	For too long houses that have been built on the edges of Chippenham have not been included within the town boundary which causes confusion. All land on which all of the new housing developments are being built should be moved to be included within the town boundary before the houses are constructed and occupied.	For too long houses that have been built on the edges of Chippenham have not been included within the town boundary which causes confusion. All land on which all of the new housing developments are being built should be moved to be included within the town boundary before the houses are constructed and occupied.

4	Representative	Disagree	<p>There are no residents in the area of the land being sought (Rugby and Cricket Clubs). The reasons given by Chippenham TC to Chippenham Without PC for this change - namely, the TC occasionally uses the Club as a venue for public consultations - are invalid as the TC has adequate premises within the town for this stated purpose. A change would cross "Ward Boundaries" which have already been established by prior review.</p>	<p>The Chippenham Site Allocations Plan, confirmed at Public Inquiry, identifies the A350 as a firm and clear boundary between the town and its adjacent rural area of Chippenham Without PC. If accepted, this proposal would violate this planning principle. The proposal is therefore unacceptable. The Rugby Club and Cricket Club are logically within Chippenham Without and all vehicular access to the Clubs is via roads within Chippenham Without PC.</p>	<p>It has been suggested to the Rugby Club that if within Chippenham Town Council's boundaries then the Club would be eligible for grants from the TC. The Club can apply for these same grants from Wiltshire Council whilst within Chippenham Without PC and indeed did so successfully at the February 2020 WC Area Board meeting. This line of reasoning by Chippenham TC is therefore invalid.</p>
5	Representative	Disagree	<p>Yatton Keynell Parish Council, do not consider the stated reason to be a valid reason. The location of the meeting place for a planning consultation does not determine who is consulted on a planning matter.</p>	<p>Yatton Keynell Parish Council object to this proposal. The A350 must be maintained as the boundary between Chippenham and the surrounding rural areas</p>	
6	Resident	Disagree	<p>This rapacious proposal by Chippenham Town (Cepen Park Ward) to grab the land occupied by Chippenham Rugby Club, Allington Cricket Club and Pavillion and Allington Netball Club has no credible justification. The A350 has been recognised as the boundary to further development from Chippenham Town and the present Chippenham Without Parish boundary further defines this and is a clear delineation between the two very distinct parishes - one urban one rural. CWO parish provides the green lung to CT.</p>	<p>The proposal would cross Ward Boundaries which are already set. One Parish cannot be in 2 Wards. There are no residents in the Rugby Club to justify realignment to Chippenham Town. The Chippenham Sites Allocation Plan states that the border of Chippenham with CWO is the A350 - this land grab breaches the A350 and sets a precedent for future uncontrolled development in the Parish. If the Rugby Club want to maximise on grants they can request the same through CWO as they could through CT.</p>	<p>Absorbing this area based on a name (if given as justification) lacks credibility as Chippenham Golf Centre is in Yatton Keynell YK Parish. The road signs on the A420 crossroads at Allington sign Chippenham Town away from Allington further defining this green amenity area's identity compared to Chippenham Town. There is no valid justification for this Parish border change</p>

	7 Resident	Disagree	<p>Chippenham Rugby Club and Allington Cricket and Netball Club should remain within the CWO parish. The proposers justification is that Chippenham Rugby Club should be in Chippenham Town - should Chippenham Golf Centre in Yatton Keynell Parish also therefore be aligned to fall within Chippenham Town? I think not!</p>	<p>The A350 defines the boundary to further development from Chippenham (ref CSAP - Chippenham Sites Allocation Plan) and should not be breached. The proposal would cross Ward Boundaries and one Parish cannot be in two Wards. The area should remain within CWO parish as part of the recreational green lung to Chippenham and retain its unique and valuable density</p>	
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Scheme 51 West Ashton 1

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Disagree	<p>As a Trowbridge resident I wish to object to parts of our town being parcelled off and handed to neighbouring parishes which have a village centre far away from the land in question on the other side of a main road. The road signs make clear that West Ashton is nowhere near here and on the other side of the A350.</p>	<p>Governance boundaries should be unified across town and unitary council</p>	<p>It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)</p>

				The effectiveness and convenience of local government is being ignored as West Ashton parish council's role is being reduced by a series of measures including the scheme above which appear to be convenient to Trowbridge and to the detriment of local representation.	
3	Resident	Agree	The area of Biss farm should be part of the parish of West Ashton		
4	Resident	Agree	Provides West Ashton with larger area to generate income from.	Local land	Provision of land to build a secondary school

Scheme 52 West Ashton 2

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments	
1	Interested Party	Agree				
Page 536	2	Resident	Disagree	The road sign makes clear West Ashton is on the east of the A350. Not here. Read para 83 and 84 of the govt guidance - boundaries should be easily identifiable and likely to remain so. The A350 makes sense here.	It would create an incoherent and messy governance structure. Development contiguous with Trowbridge should be included in Trowbridge town.	It's important to recognise that the cohesion and identity of Trowbridge as a whole would be undermined by not including contiguous development in its boundaries; and its efficiency undermined by depriving it of CIL to provide facilities to all residents (and those of neighbouring parishes who use the town). As such all residents of Trowbridge have an interest in these proposals and could be considered to be affected. Boundaries need to be - and likely to remain - easily identifiable (para83)
	3	Resident	Agree	The transfer of Larkrise Farm to West Ashton parish maintains an appropriate boundary between the parish and Trowbridge which is essential to the integrity of West Ashton as a separate community.	The apparent wish to subsume West Ashton into Trowbridge by a series of measures which, by intent or otherwise, diminish the effectiveness of West Ashton parish council as representatives of residents can't be described as either effective or convenient local government for such residents.	
4	Resident	Agree	We were moved out of West Ashton into Trowbridge and have seen no positive change as a result.		Provision of land to build a secondary school	



Scheme 74 Salisbury

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			

Scheme 75 Chippenham Without

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Agree			
3	Resident	Agree	Cedar Lodge is practically within Allington and Chippenham Without, with all neighbouring properties and the access lane within Chippenham without	Cedar Lodge is within the formal Allington Conservation Area	Kington St Michael have no objection to this change
Page 538	4 Resident	Disagree	Yatton Keynell have no neighbourhood plan representing residents interests.	It is my opinion that the A350 must remain the border of Chippenham..as such the Rugby ground clearly falls outside. There are no financial benefits to the Rugby club.	Chippenham W.O. Parish should be allowed to maintain its integrity through allowing the N.P.G. to finalise its aims for future development. These plans in my opinion put that at jeopardy
5	Resident	Agree	It makes absolute sense for Cedar Lodge Cottage to be moved into Chippenham Without Parish from Kington St Michael	This is an anomaly that should have been dealt with much earlier on due to its location within teh CWO parish	

Scheme 76 Woodborough

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Agree			
3	Interested Party	Agree	It make obvious sense	It makes obvious sense	The area in question is always believed by most Woodborough residents to be part of Woodborough and this proposal will tidy up the existing anomaly.
4	Resident	Agree	Never understood why we were in a different parish anyway	Don't think the transfer would change anything	
5	Business	Agree			

Scheme 82 Yatton Keynell

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Interested Party	Agree			
2	Resident	Agree			
3	Representative	Disagree	There are no residents in the area being sought by Yatton Keynell and no one lives in the Golf Driving Range. No justification has been provided by Yatton Keynell PC to Chippenham Without PC for this proposal and therefore the reasons and justification for this request by Yatton Keynell are unknown. This is not reasonable or democratic in its approach. This is a sizeable piece of land which would affect the integrity of Chippenham Without.	This is a change which would cross "Ward Boundaries" established by prior review. Yatton Keynell is not producing a Neighbourhood Plan and can thus be beset by proposals from developers. The belief is that having this land would enable YK to offer it to developers to offset demands by developers elsewhere in YK. This proposal is effectively "robbery" by YK from Chippenham Without and is not acceptable.	There is no evidence that Yatton Keynell have discussed this proposal with residents in Chippenham Without who live adjacent to it and thus no evidence that they have offered any approval of this proposal. This is not a democratic or consultative approach to the issue by Yatton Keynell and, as such, is unacceptable.
4	Representative	Disagree	I have made a prior submission disagreeing with this proposal - but forgot to check if I had ticked the right box "disagree with the proposal". This submission is therefor to confirm that I "disagree with the proposal". All the reasons are as previously advanced.		
5	Representative	Disagree	This would appear to be a land grab without justification opening up opportunities for development by YK Parish.	The proposed change would cross Ward Boundaries that are already set. There are no residents in the area to realign with Yatton Keynell and the sizeable area of land would affect the integrity of CWO parish. CWO parish are in the advanced stages of producing a Neighbourhood Plan aimed at preserving the rural nature of the parish to ensure that development where and when it occurs is appropriate and sustainable for the people of the parish. Recreational green space forms part of the vision.	It is vitally important to protect the CWO parish's recreational green space for the enjoyment of the people of Chippenham. The boundary revision proposal simply carves away green amenities undermining the integrity of our Neighbourhood Plan Concept whilst presenting the opportunity for further development by others within YK to expand outside of their parish boundary. A rapacious land grab which lacks any solid justification.
6	Resident	Disagree	Its a greedy land grab without any substantive justification other than futureproofing YK development opportunities.	There are no residents to realign with Yatton Keynell. A change would cross "Ward Boundaries" and these are already set. The area proposed is fairly sizeable and would affect the integrity of CWO parish.	

Comment	Status	Agree/Disagree/Amend	Reasons: Community Identity (amendment details if amendment chosen)	Reasons: Effective and Convenient Local Governance	Any other comments
1	Resident	Disagree			
2	Representative	Disagree	the parish has 4/5 distinct areas within it, Seend, Seend Cleeve, Sells Green, the Stocks, Martinslade, and Inmarsh all have distinct and different needs and should be widely represented by its parish councillors and thus its residents.	the parish has 4/5 distinct areas within it, Seend, Seend Cleeve, Sells Green, the Stocks, Martinslade, and Inmarsh all have distinct and different needs and should be widely represented by its parish councillors and thus its residents	
3	Resident	Disagree			
4	Resident	Disagree	I support the Parish Council in retaining 11 Councillors. This is a widespread parish and needs to have representation across the whole parish.	We have a hard working Parish Council all of whom contribute to the work of the parish. I believe this would be less effective with fewer councillors.	
5	Resident	Disagree	Seend is a large parish in terms of both population and geography. There are four distinct areas: Seend main village, Sells Green, Seend Cleeve and Inmarsh, plus a number of outlying farm areas such as Broad Lane/Bath Road and along the Trowbridge Road. The current number of councillors for Seend is on par with other parish councils of a similar size. Councillors backgrounds include farming, business owners and retired professionals. This matches evenly with the mix of population.	The current number of Councillors enables a fairer representation of all parts of the Parish. Of the 11 councillors, 4 live in Seend, 2 in Sells Green, 2 in Seend Cleeve, 2 in Inmarsh and 1 along the Bath Road. If the number were reduced to 9, there is a chance that some parts of the parish would have little representation. Councillors don't stand for a political party but on a desire to do their best for the community they live in. Seend has always managed to fill any vacancy.	The workload of a parish councillor can be quite heavy. If you reduced the number of councillors, that workload may become too onerous, and rather than promoting democracy, it may reduce the number of candidates wanting to take up the role of a parish councillor. Please keep the number of parish councillors for Seend at its current number of 11
6	Resident	Disagree	The democratic interests of the community will be diluted by a reduction in councillors	The Parish is large and the current number of councillors reflect this. Had the Parish and it's population reduced since the last election then a reduction in representatives might be appropriate. Since this is not the case there are no grounds for this proposal.	
7	Resident	Disagree		The current number of councillors provides good representation from the scattered areas of this rural parish. A reduction in number would impose extra work on the remaining councillors who are, after all, volunteers.	
8	Representative	Disagree	The current number of councillors is satisfactory for day to day running of Parish affair. It allows tasks and responsibilities to be shared equally amongst its members and affords a variety of skills and interests to be valued.	Skill mix is valuable to the effectiveness of the PC. The current number of councillors allows a good combination of local knowledge, varied business and intellectual experiences, and timely responses to issues as necessary.	The willingness of people to volunteer their time and efforts should be valued. Councillors take seriously their responsibilities and code of conduct.
9	Resident	Disagree		There is no need for this change. Seend Parish Council functions well as it is. Councillors are volunteers and each already takes on several time consuming responsibilities. If the number is reduced the workload for each will increase. Not good for effective and convenient local governance.	
10	Resident	Disagree	I disagree with Scheme 83 which proposes the reduction in the number of Councillors. Seend PC is an effective body of 11 volunteers. Reducing the number would only increase the work load on the 9. We are fortunate that there are 11 parishioners who are prepared to sit on the PC and I see no problem with the fact they did not have to fight for their seat.	Seend PC has a good track record of Effective and Convenient Local Governance through the generosity of the 11 parishioners who sit on the PC.	Consideration should be given as to why such and unhelpful proposal has been put forward.

11	Representative	Disagree	<p>Seend is a Large Village and so there is a need for 11 councillors to ensure all parts of the parish are covered. Local people in each area will have more knowledge and give a fair representation at council meetings.</p>	<p>If fewer councillors, there may be less representation at council meetings. There is no set maximum number of councillors. Councillors also sit in various sub-committees ie. Highways, Precept, planning, neighbourhood planning and attend site visits and Melksham Area Board, CATG as well as reps at Community Centre and Lye Field meetings so sufficient number of councillors are needed to cover all other responsibilities.</p>	<p>Seend has had 11 councillors for years and the village continues to expand so it needs that number to carry out the tasks and attend meetings effectively and efficiently. It has the same number as similar size villages. Present councillors come with wide ranging experiences from farmers, magistrate, several who run their businesses, retired doctor which proves helpful when sharing ideas/observations. Seend is a Large Village and it is imperative we keep 11 councillors to fulfil our duties.</p>
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	<b>Date received</b>	<b>Sender</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Summary</b>
1	03/02/20	Interested Party	Seend - Scheme 11	survey process
2	04/02/20	Resident	Southwick -Scheme 37	Parish council proposal is illogical, the area is identifiably trowbridge and the proposal is made to avoid development in the village
3	06/02/20	Unitary Cllr	Chippenham - Scheme 41	Opposes proposal - compromises A350 and the unitary division boundary, rugby club also home of allington cricket club
	06/02/20	Unitary Cllr	Yatton Keynell - Scheme 82	Opposes proposal - would compromise unitary division boundary, seems to be a land grab for housing requirements
	06/02/20	Unitary Cllr	Chippenham Without - Scheme 75	Supports proposal
4	07/02/20	Parish Cllr	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Opposes - parish works hard for all, shares benefits parish is buffer between calne and chippenham, that diminishes if it dissolves.
5	08/02/20	Resident	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Funds for whole parish at present
6	08/02/20	Parish Cllr	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Opposes - proposal detrimental, rest of parish not cohesive enough without derry hill, nor enough amenities. Bowood estate would be split
7	10/02/20	Resident	Wilcot - Scheme 34	All houses in Sunnyhill lane should be part of Wilcot
8	10/02/20	Resident	Wilcot - Scheme 34	Wishes area to remain in Oare(Wilcot)
9	10/02/20	Resident	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Opposes - risk of JR if not taking into account impact on rest of parish
10	10/02/20	Resident	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Opposes - current arrangement has balanced representation, lack of wards not ideal, bowood estate split
11	10/02/20	Resident	Melksham Scheme 24	Opposed merger - parish is effective and still distinct from Town and more focused on rural area
				Supports 9 and 10 for reasons provided by parish. Partially support 11 - area is looked after by MW parish, and canal is natural demarcation. Scheme 24 - does not support any merger, villages distinct from town, there is still a buffer even with development
12	11/02/20	Resident	Melksham - 9, 10, 11, 24	
13	11/02/20	Unitary Cllr	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Opposes - impact on remainder of parish too high
14	11/02/20	Interested Party	Scheme 11 - Seend 1	Melksham Without Parish Council endorse amended proposal for Scheme 11 to exclude Giles Woods from area to be transferred from Seend
15	17/02/20	Resident Petition	Scheme 4 - Lacock	Residents of Rowden Lane oppose transfer from Lacock. 16 person petition

16	18/02/20 Resident	Scheme 24 - Merger	Revision of the proposal for Option C - Merger but with a new parish of Whitley, Shaw and Beanacre
17	21/02/20 Parish CLlr	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Objects to new parish proposal
18	24/02/20 Resident	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Object to new parish proposal
19	25/02/20 Parish CLlr	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Parish cllrs - opposes new parish
20	25/02/20 Resident	Scheme 24 - Merger	Supports proposal
21	25/02/20 Resident	Scheme 24 - Merger	Supports proposal
22	26/02/20 Lead Petitioner	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Details on proposal
23	26/02/20 Resident	Scheme 24 - Merger	Opposed change
24	17/02/20 Resident Michelle Donelan	Scheme 24 - Merger	Has no view on change
25	05/03/20 MP Andrew Murrison	Scheme 4/44	Reference to residents on Rowden Lane
26	06/01/20 MP	Schemes 7/8	
27	14/03/20 Lead Petitioner	Scheme 40 - Derry Hill	Proposes review in 2019/20 approves new parish at Derry Hill, and a second review then considers what to do with remainder of calne without parish



[REDACTED]

Cllr Richard Clewer  
Wiltshire county Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wilts.  
30<sup>th</sup> January 2020

RECEIVED  
04 FEB 2020

Dear Mr Clewer,

**Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019/2020**

I have written to you as Chair of the Committee with my objections to proposals put forward in a separate letter but I am so appalled by the approach of the Council to this series of consultations that I must ask you to urgently consider the operation.

As you were at the recent public meeting in Bowerhill you will be aware of the frustration caused by both the timing of the meeting. 6pm on a weekday when many workers have no chance of getting home and out again in time, and the advance notice given, virtually non-existent as you did not have the common courtesy to write to the clerks of the parish councils involved.

But worse is to come when you attempt to get on-line to respond to these proposals. I have been working in IT since 1963 so am computer literate. However the struggle to find any link to your website gives me the impression that you have deliberately buried it to make it almost inaccessible and reinforces the perception that the council does not want the public to know what is going on. So much for transparent government.

Having found the site it then seems to be invented by an IT operator who only tweets as the input line is one line long so that you cannot see what you have input. I challenge you to ask a member of your office not involved to find the site and try and enter an opinion. It is all but impossible and why I have now written snail mail to you at County Hall and will encourage all others to do the same. If you recall you did concur that this would be acceptable.

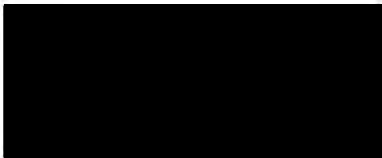
As a landowner involved in a proposal to which I object, I would ask your legal team why I was not informed about any public meeting nor of any proposal to change the governance of part of my farm.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Janet M Giles BA  
Cc: Cllr Jonathon Seed

[REDACTED]



Cllr Richard Clewer  
Wiltshire County Council  
County Hall  
Trowbridge  
Wilts.

30<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Mr Clewer,

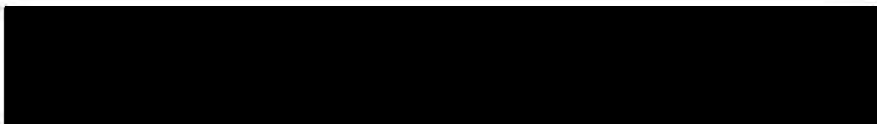
Please accept this letter as my formal opposition to a proposal put forward in the Wilts CC Governance Review 2019/2020. **I require your assurance, either by email or mail, that the following will be taken into consideration in the consultation period.**

**Wiltshire Council Community Governance Review 2019/2020  
Scheme 11: Seend 1**

I am strongly opposed to the proposal to move the existing boundary from Seend Parish Council to Melksham Without Parish Council in order solely to encompass a small canal side picnic area currently maintained by a volunteer group of Bowerhill residents (BRAG), in the main I believe retired, and in many ways choosing to do this for occupation of their time and the companionship it affords. Although the site is in the Parish of Seend, Seend PC has no objection whatsoever to this use.

I live at Seend Park Farm south of the K&A canal in the parish of Seend and own Giles Wood, a 14 acre green space amenity, which is north of the K&A, part of my farm and also in the Parish of Seend. The wood has 5000 British trees planted in 1993 by myself and my late husband and the public are permitted to walk at will on both permissive paths and the central bridleway. There are many wild flowers in the wood and trees planted in memory of loved ones who are no longer with us. I do not have any funding to maintain either the wood or the farmland used by the public.

BRAG claims that the picnic site has a sense of place within the community of Bowerhill, rather than Seend and states without substance that this has been demonstrated since the last CGR when permission for this change was refused. I walk the tow path almost every day and encounter walkers, cyclists and boaters who are not from Bowerhill. They arrive via Semington, Seend Cleeve and Littleton and as our farm has installed a fixed picnic table next to our accommodation bridge 156 they often make that a refreshment stop. They also cross the bridge to walk at will across our fields and riverside walk, again on permissive paths as there is no ROW.



[REDACTED]

I am sure the group of BRAG volunteers enjoy looking after the urban garden they have created and I applaud Melksham Without for supporting them but this is a rural setting and like all urban gardens the more that is planted the more looking after it needs. The council is obliged to keep areas clean and safe and the fact that maintenance undertaken by the council is carried out by a Bowerhill resident is immaterial, the contractor could live anywhere.

Although we have a picnic table and many seats in the wood we do not require a rubbish bin as we are not mimicking an urban environment. I collect rubbish occasionally left and so do many of my regular walkers. The latter also alert me to any suspected vandalism or fires and as we have the advantage of being on site these can be dealt with as they occur.

Using a facility or providing a facility anywhere does not create ownership as BRAG seems to imply. Otherwise I fear for both Giles Wood and my farmland. I want this asset to be used by everyone but I regard it primarily as an asset and an amenity I can offer to Seend. In fact users are of all ages from Scouts and Cubs to OAPs stopping off on a bike ride.

Being on the most Western edge of my parish does not mean my loyalties, social engagements, shop and Post Office lie anywhere other than in Seend. By car we are further to Bowerhill than to Seend Church.

There is no justification for changing ancient boundaries which by their nature are wandering and marked by hedges and ditches and rivers only because the effect is neater. We have tried this in both Africa and between Iraq and Iran with the inevitable result. Of course we won't go to war with Melksham but we shall be sorely aggrieved to lose 40 acres of farmland and a splendid 14 acre wood full of grown trees to their control.

I am generally concerned that Melksham itself is wanting so much expansion. They with their proposals are trying to gobble up Melksham Without and they in turn are therefore trying to gobble up what they consider to be smaller fry. If these areas north of the K&A get into the jurisdiction of both parishes of Melksham it will give them carte blanche to do as they will right up to the canal.

Both in the wood and on our pasture land fronting Semington Brook users have no vehicle access and as a result some effort is required to access the amenity by those who value and physically care for the trees and their environment. I am fearful that if Seend loses control and any building is permitted to expand this amenity would be lost. If access were easier I think the seclusion now so valued would lead to the wood being used by a different group who would not think twice about lighting fires, damaging trees or leaving litter. In that case I would have no option other than to fence the bridleway on both sides and to restrict access to any other permissive paths in the wood and the fields.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This is an unwarranted land grab and the location of the BRAG picnic site a mere red herring. We need a peaceful buffer between urban development and the peace and tranquility of the canal walk ways for everyone to enjoy green space away from the bustle of modern life.

I would strongly urge your Committee to reject this proposal so that residents of both parishes may continue to enjoy the benefits provided by both myself and BRAG.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Janet M Giles

cc. Cllr Jonathon Seed

[REDACTED]

## **Community Governance Review Survey January 2020**

**Submissions by [REDACTED] (a resident in the area affected by the proposal)**

**4 Church Lane, TROWBRIDGE BA140EH**

### **Disagreeing with the proposal in Scheme 37 - Southwick**

The proposed incorporation of Church Lane, The Nestings and Old Brick Fields into Southwick Parish is illogical and incongruous from the points of view of geography, community cohesion as well as access to amenities and infrastructure.

Geographically, this area constitutes an integral part of Trowbridge and it is distinctly isolated from Southwick by the large area of the Country Park. As Church Lane residents, we never travel to Southwick for any purpose whatsoever. All our amenities, shops, business and cultural venues are located in Trowbridge.

This area features the iconic St John's Church together with the enclave of Grade II houses surrounding it. This is a heritage corner of Trowbridge with its unique Victorian architecture which needs to be preserved. This area's residents identify as Trowbridgeans. Church Lane belongs to the suburb of Upper Studley. The Church Hall in Church Lane is widely used by the local residents and organisations based in town. St John's is the focal point for the community life. It would be scandalous if the entire St John's enclave was severed from the local community and artificially attached to Southwick with which it has no links whatsoever.

Being part of the town of Trowbridge, albeit on its frontier, we enjoy the benefits of all its facilities and infrastructure (roads, street lights, leisure centre, The Shires shopping centre, schools, Trowbridge Health Centre and many more). They are provided for and maintained by the Town of Trowbridge. I can't envisage that Southwick Parish Council would care to invest in sustaining, developing and maintaining any of those amenities for people who physically reside in Trowbridge. We would become the pariahs of Southwick Parish. Our needs would be neglected and last on the list of priorities for the Parish.

The fact that Southwick Parish Council would not care to properly address our needs is already evident from the letter from Parish Clerk Nicola Duke to Kieran Elliot (Senior Democratic Services Officer), dated 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. In that letter, she explicitly states that one of the primary objectives for the Parish Council is to avoid new development in the centre of the village of Southwick. It follows therefore the Parish Council are keen on grabbing Church Lane/The Nestings/Old Brick Fields so that they can become dumping grounds for new developments which are not desirable for Southwick. A most cynical motivation lies behind Southwick Parish wanting to incorporate our area within its boundaries, but logistically and from the point of view of community cohesion this proposal is totally indefensible.

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** Greenman, Howard  
**Sent:** 06 February 2020 10:48  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Community Governance review.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Kieran,

I wish to draw your attention to the above review, particularly in relation to Chippenham Without Parish. This parish proudly comprises of predominantly Allington, Sheldon and Lanhill.

You will already be aware of the issues surrounding Cedar Lodge which one can only perhaps express surprise was ever within the parish of Kington St Michael in the first place. Representations have of course already been made regarding placing Cedar Lodge in it's rightful place in Chippenham Without parish as part of Allington, and I trust that initiative is being taken forward.

I have two further concerns. Firstly the somewhat audacious quest for a "land-grab" by Yatton Keynell for land adjoining their parish. I can only assume that perhaps this quest is driven by a need to identify additional land to fulfil the housing land requirement of Yatton Keynell within their own Core Strategy requirements. As I understand it a premise behind the Community Governance review is that there should not be split or cross-pollination of electoral boundaries. This would of course have just that impact on both Bybrook and Kington, and must subsequently be resisted.

Similarly with the request of Chippenham Town Council to subsume Chippenham Rugby Club with their boundaries. I take particular exception to this cynical ploy, and cannot beyond their own aggrandisement consider why Chippenham Town Council would want to do so.

When asked recently why such a suggestion had been put forward, a couple of Chippenham Town Councillors opined to me that Chippenham Rugby Club was once in Chippenham Town, and that the clue was in the name, thus it should once again form part of the town of Chippenham. This argument is deeply flawed of course as the site also accommodates Allington Cricket club, clearly carrying a Chippenham Without title, and in any event as has also been pointed out to me, West Ham Football Club was once in West Ham and is now in Stratford, London, without any name change or apparent attempt to change parish boundaries!

Again this initiative would compromise the Kington Division boundary , and it is worth remembering that when there was a planning application by The Range to build adjacent to the rugby club a key plank of argument against it was that Within the Core Strategy the A350 should not be breached. This parameter was supported by Wiltshire Council at Corporate Director level downwards, and also supported by official guidance at planning Inspector level. Again then, this request by Chippenham Town Council must be refused for all the reasonable arguments given.

Chippenham Without Parish has a modest populace of little more than 200, and I have an ongoing concern that the parish could become vulnerable to the machinations of larger parishes. This is against all tenets of democracy and the very spirit of the Community Governance review, and I would urge all involved in the decision making which

impacts on Chippenham Without Parish, and the council, to be cognisant of the residents, proud to belong exactly where they are, and should remain so.

Kind Regards,

Howard. ( Cllr Howard Greenman).

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 07 February 2020 12:58  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Cc:** Ed Jones; Sarah Glen  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Kieran,

I attended the presentation, on 5th February, at Derry Hill. It is unfortunate that it couldn't be held in Calne, which is central to all the Wards in Calne Without PC .

I would like to make the following representation:

Calne Without Councillors represent and work hard for all the parishioners, no matter to which Ward they may belong.

Each Ward has its own benefits and these are shared by the whole community, be it child care, nursery provision, schooling, village hall, public houses, country walks and cycle tracks, sporting facilities and venues to name a few.

Recently Derry Hill Pre-School Playgroup approached Calne Without PC with a request for £6,500. Some West Ward Councillors (Derry Hill) wanted to reduce this to £2,500 and ask the cash-strapped Derry Hill Scouts to contribute. Fortunately Calne Without PC resolved to pay the whole request.

My particular Ward (Middle) covers a large rural area not just a single village that could be appended to a neighbouring Parish.

The villagers around me in Stockley want to remain in Calne Without PC as they can see the benefits of a larger and diverse Council.

I most certainly do not want to join Heddington PC as I have serious doubts about their governance.

Kind regards,  
Sue.

Cllr Sue Baker  
Calne Without Parish Council  
[REDACTED]  
[www.calnewithout-pc.gov.uk](http://www.calnewithout-pc.gov.uk)

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** laurence [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** 08 February 2020 11:04  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Fwd: Governance Review re: Derry Hill & Studley.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Re sending letter.

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** 8 Feb 2020 10:47  
**Subject:** Governance Review re: Derry Hill & Studley.  
**To:** "Keiran.Elliott" <Keiran.Elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk>  
**Cc:**

Dear Kieran,

I live in Stockley which as you know is served by Calne Without Parish Council.

I would prefer to remain within CWPC and all the wards retained.

I believe that those Parishioners who signed a petition asking for Derry Hill and Studley to have their own Parish Council have not been given the whole truth by the instigators of that petition.

What will happen to the funds that CWPC hold, which are available for the benefit of the whole Parish.?

One persons dream could shatter thousands of others.

I attended a meeting at the Lansdowne hall Derry Hill, the start time was awkward and I could not help but notice the lack of young people at the meeting, it was attended by mainly elderly residents most of whom reside in Derry Hill or Studley, the venue was not central to the whole of CWPC.

Some views presented as to where different parts of the parish might join other parish councils have been ill thought out and I object strongly to that idea.

CWPC serves the communities within its boundaries extremely well and has a diverse membership with a wealth of knowledge.

CWPC also acts as a buffer to Calne and Chippenham and this will be diminished if CWPC is dissolved.

Please make the right decision for all of CWPC not just the few.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 February 2020 20:20  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Mr Elliott,

I am writing as a resident of Calstone and as a CalneWithout Parish Councillor for East Ward. Unfortunately I could not attend the meeting on Feb. 5th but would like to argue that the motion by residents of Derry Hill/Studley to split CalneWithout apart will be detrimental to all the areas (Sandy Lane, Middle Ward and East Ward) left behind after a split. We do not have enough local amenities to function as a cohesive parish and will no doubt have to join other parishes and their councils. It is far from sure that we will be welcomed by those parishes as our joining will not doubt increase the council tax burden for their residents without bringing other benefits. The large estate of Bowood itself will be split too, with part of it remaining within the new boundaries of Derry Hill/Studley and the rest going to possibly various other parishes. This in itself seems completely counter intuitive as it was Bowood itself which originally defined the parish of CalneWithout.

To add to this - at a time where all the talk is about community it seems strange and insular for one part of our parish to isolate itself from their immediate neighbours after 130 years of working together. In a move in the opposite direction Wiltshire Unitary Council itself was created not that long ago by joining various local councils.

The gain that Derry Hill/Studley is hoping to achieve by the proposed split will be much smaller than the harm done to the remaining areas of the parish.

I strongly oppose the proposed split and sincerely hope that those arguments do not fall on deaf ears when Wiltshire Council decides on the issue.

Yours sincerely  
Katharina Kronig

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My email is [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,  
[REDACTED]

RECEIVED

10 FEB 2020

RECEIVED

10 FEB 2020

Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Sir / Madam,

I have been trying to respond to the survey about whether the caravan park and the houses along Sunnyhill Lane should all be a part of the Wilcot, Hurish and Oare Parish Council. I strongly believe that they should all be in ~~an~~ the one parish of Wilcot, Hurish and Oare.

Before I finished the survey, which I must say is not at all clear, the survey closed thanking me for my response. I would like that to be disregarded and this letter regarded as my response.

I am sure the format of this survey would have deterred some people from taking part. Not user friendly!

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10 FEB 2020

26 Feb 2020.

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to you to make a democratic point and would wish for a non-waffle reply.

I was unable to make a vote to remain an Ome person due to the fact I have no computer like a number of millions people who like myself were not aware we would be deprived of a democratic votes unless we had access to a computer. If I and my husband plus my son whom I act as appointee had the opportunity of a postal vote we would have chosen OARE

Please explain why only an invitation to vote was invited from internet users. My assumption is you are aware of the popular choice of OARE in this area and the age of population and the possibility due to a general lack of internet use. DEMOCRATIC  
cc Ruth Kenyon

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** Clewer, Richard  
**Sent:** 10 February 2020 21:31  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** FW: Proposal for Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Kieran,

Another response.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Clewer, Wiltshire Councillor Downton and Ebble Ward  
Deputy Leader Wiltshire Council, responsible for Housing, Climate Change, Corporate Services, Asset Transfer, Arts, Heritage and Tourism.



Tel: 07980 756424  
Email: [richard.clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:richard.clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)  
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 February 2020 15:56  
**To:** Clewer, Richard <[Richard.Clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.Clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Proposal for Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council

Dear Cllr Clewer

I attended the meeting last Wednesday evening at the Lansdowne Hall, Derry Hill when, amongst other things, you explained clearly the proposal to establish Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council as a breakaway group from Calne Without Parish Council.

In the course of your presentation you touched on Judicial Review ("JR"). You pointed out, correctly, that JR is about the process rather than the merits of the case.

There are many cases where JR is successful and where the process is then carried out correctly with the decision still going in favour of the original proposal. The victory at JR may be pyrrhic only. However, JR should be avoided if possible.

You mentioned that the proposal is for the formation of Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council independent from Calne Without Parish Council.

There was no “business case” to look at the viability of the remaining parts of Calne Without.

Furthermore, there are no proposals to merge the parts of Calne Without remaining with other Parish Councils, as some people suggested, and if that became part of the agenda, you made clear it would have, procedurally, to be a two stage process. In any event there have been no discussions with any of the adjoining Parish Councils to see if they would be interested in merging with parts of Calne Without.

Whilst I understand that any proposal to merge parts of Calne Without with other Parish Councils would at this stage result in a two stage process that simply does not work.

The decision over Derry Hill and Studley cannot be looked at in isolation from the remaining part of Calne Without. There has to be a clear strategy for that, whether it is to go it alone or to merge with other Parish Councils. Fisher Brook is a simple example of where the matter needs to be thought through: it remains, otherwise, as an island site. The Bowood Estate, Grade 1 listed, would be divided between two Parish Councils.

In arriving at your recommendation/decision you will know that you are required to apply the Wednesbury Principles and take all relevant matters into account.

These include, as I believe you or one of your colleagues pointed out, community cohesion, a strategy for Calne Without as a whole, if you extract Derry Hall and Studley whether what is left is viable, whether merging parts of Calne Without with other parishes is feasible: in other words, a global solution is what is required.

Without looking at the bigger picture, I believe, as a lawyer with some experience of JR, that you are opening yourself up to a legal challenge if you approve the proposal without taking all relevant factors into account.

I believe the present proposal should be rejected. That does not stop the proposers coming forward at some time in the future but this must include a “complete package” if it is to be considered fully.

Best wishes,



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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** Clewer, Richard  
**Sent:** 10 February 2020 21:31  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** FW: Proposal for Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Kieran,

A consultation response.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Clewer, Wiltshire Councillor Downton and Ebble Ward  
Deputy Leader Wiltshire Council, responsible for Housing, Climate Change, Corporate Services, Asset Transfer, Arts, Heritage and Tourism.



Tel: 07980 756424  
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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 February 2020 18:03  
**To:** Clewer, Richard <[Richard.Clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.Clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Proposal for Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council

Dear Cllr Clewer,

I am sorry I wasn't able to join you at the Boundary meeting in Derry Hill on 5<sup>th</sup> February, which I understand you took with great sensitivity. I am objecting to the proposal on a number of grounds.

1. We must all accept that change is constant and inevitable, but it is foolish to promote changes just to prevent development. Derry Hill and Studley being the only 'large village' in the Parish has had to absorb a significant population increase. However, the strength of the current Parish Council has been the balance between the suburban representation (Derry Hill & Studley) and the rural hinterland. This has resulted in balanced debates and reasoned decisions. If the proposal was to proceed the rural elements such as Pewsham and parts of Bowood would be in a minority. The rationale of different backgrounds and opinions would be lost.
2. It is proposed the new Parish Council should be represented by nine Councillors without identifying any wards. One of the strengths of the current ward system, is that the electorate are able to identify with their representative and this would not be the case if the current proposal was adopted.

3. It is suggested that outlying hamlets such as Ratford, High Penn, Lower Compton, Calstone, Blacklands, Stockley, Mile Elm and Sandy Lane could comfortably be absorbed into neighbouring parishes. Who has established whether the residents of these communities would want to realign their focus of attention away from Calne Without? I don't believe that this has been tested?
4. I write this with a vested interest. Bowood has formed part of the Calne Without Parish since it was established in 1890. The Grade One listed Park is of national importance and it seems bizarre to draw an arbitrary line dividing it into two parts.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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## Community Governance Review for scheme 24 – Melksham Merger



*(View 1 – looking west along the A365 with Bowerhill Lane on the left and the rooftops of the housing development just visible. On the right, in the distance is the Melksham Oak School.)*



*(View 2 - Towards the top of Bowerhill Lane and the same housing development.)*

In the two views above I have attempted to demonstrate that although Bowerhill would not qualify as a village in the long standing definition as such, it stands as a separate unique area and certainly cannot be seen as part of Melksham Town, given the rural surroundings and location. As in many parts of the country, these rural areas are under constant pressure not only from housing development but, also transport networks. In our case this would be the A350 Melksham by-pass, but this could be many years away, if at all, with the recent announcement putting a ban on new petrol/diesel cars by 2035.

It has been pointed out that the new housing development either side of Pathfinder Way has removed the “*Green belt zone*” between the two areas, I would say there is still a significant distinction between the two – as demonstrated in ‘*views 3 and 4.*’)



(View 3 – looking over the Bowerhill roundabout towards Melksham Town – A365 runs from right to left.)



(View 4 – Bowerhill roundabout from A365, Pathfinder Way to left, Spa Road to Town, right.)

Bowerhill sits more happily and identifies with the surrounding rural environment much more than with the Town, it also adds an element of diversity and diverse areas must be supported if we are to avoid the terrible prospect of this whole area – and I include Berryfield, becoming a ‘Dormitory Suburb’. Melksham Without Parish Council has, over the years built up a broad knowledge base and expertise in the management of its areas and is well placed to address the needs of these communities – which are quite different to those of town areas, it also recognises that where new housing development sits better within the ‘Town’ area, small changes to boundaries could be made.

As stated in the ‘*Strong and Prosperous Communities (2006 White Paper)*’.....*parish councils are an established and valued form of neighbourhood democracy and management. They have an important role to play in the development of their local communities. That includes helping them through influencing the quality of planning and design of public spaces and the built environment, working with (others) to undertake the role of place-shaping.*

Dissolution of this parish council or part of, is unnecessary since they are best placed to reflect community identity and interests.

I would like to propose;

1. To leave Melksham Without Parish Council completely intact and able to continue with the good work it does.

2. To extend greater powers to them in decision making, particularly planning matters – a good example of localism working to benefit the area as a whole.

*Thank you.*



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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** Democratic and Member Services  
**Sent:** 11 February 2020 09:29  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** FW: Community Governance Review

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10 February 2020 17:48  
**To:** Democratic and Member Services <Committee@wiltshire.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Teresa Strange <clerk@melkshamwithout.co.uk>; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review

I wish to comment on Schemes 9, 10, 11 and 24 (all options.)

### Scheme 9 Supported

Fully supported for the same reasons as provided by Melksham Without Parish Council. This development is contiguous with the town and should be included in their area.

### Scheme 10. Supported

Fully supported for the same reasons as provided by Melksham Without Parish Council. This development is contiguous with the town and should be included in their area.

### Scheme 11. Partially supported.

The area of land, known as the "picnic area", is looked after, cleaned, refurbished and renewed after vandalism by the residents of Bowerhill. It is closer to Bowerhill than Seend and lies to the north of the Kennet and Avon Canal. The latter making a natural demarcation line between the two parishes.

### Scheme 24

#### Option A. Not supported

This option totally fails to recognise the inherent differences between the villages of Bowerhill, Berryfield, Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley and the hamlet of Redstocks with the town of Melksham. These villages are recognised as such in the last Core Strategy. Notwithstanding, the build of new houses contiguous to the town, see Schemes 9 and 10, the new building in the villages still leaves a clear natural buffer between them and the town. Indeed the larger development at Bowerhill was specifically designed to face inward towards the village to meet Wiltshire Council Planning Guidelines. All the villages have separate village halls, play centres and inward activities separate from the town. The representation of the villages encourages their identity without being subsumed within the larger town. There is a clear boundary separating the southern villages from the town along the existing Western Way/A365 and the projected new Eastern Way together with a landscaped buffer to the south of this. The northern Villages and Redstocks are separated by open farmland.

#### Option B. Not supported

See reasons at Option A. This attempts to incorporate the southern, northern and eastern regions of Melksham Without, but does not recognise the villages that exist as existing communities. There is little in common with the town that itself provides little for the village communities. (What is provided comes from the Wiltshire Council and is similarly provided in Devizes, a natural link from Bowerhill by road and bus, and in Trowbridge, a natural link from Berryfield by car and bus.) The northern region is separated by open farmland.

#### Option C. Not Supported

This option is not explained and is difficult to identify just what is being proposed.



Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

THE PROPOSAL TO SPLIT DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY FROM CALNE WITHOUT PARISH

I have represented Calne Rural Division since 2009 and the greater part of Calne Without Parish falls within my Division. Various boundary changes over the years have meant that I have represented all areas of Calne Without Parish at one time or another since election to Wiltshire County Council in 1997 and also all the villages surrounding Calne and even parts of the town itself.

I do not support the proposal to make a separate parish of Derry Hill and Studley that is currently on the table. Whilst Derry Hill and Studley would probably be quite self-sufficient as a parish council, I believe the effect on the remaining hamlets would be extremely detrimental. Hardly any of them possess any public meeting places at all. It is true there are the George Inn at Sandy Lane, the Wellington Barn at Calstone, and the Blacklands Leisure Club, but all these are private property.

The register MT2 for Middle Ward Part 2 covers Chilvester Hill (26 electors) on the edge of Calne, the hamlets of Fishers Brook (25 electors), a couple of miles away and Ratford (23 electors) a couple of miles away from both the above. Also on the register is the hamlet of Mile Elm (40 electors) which is on the opposite side of Calne from the above. Also on this register at present is Cherhill Way which is part of the new development which is adjacent to Calne Town and which will become part of the town shortly.

Calne Without Parish is named for the fact that it surrounds Calne Town and it is true that some of the hamlets and villages are remote from one another. Being the largest settlement by far, the parish has managed to be cohesive by focussing on Derry Hill and Studley as the centre for recreation and schooling. If this centre were removed, the outlying settlements would struggle. Should the petitioners be allowed to have their way, I believe the future for the representation of these settlements would be bleak. If it were felt that this was the way forward, I feel a more large-scale upheaval would be necessary. For example, Ratford might be successfully incorporated into Bremhill parish. Chilvester Hill and Lower Compton might be incorporated into Calne town, although there might be some strong objections to that! When the proposal to ally Stockley with Heddington was made at Heddington Parish Council meeting by the instigator of the petition, the response was not favourable – in spite of the names always being coupled by the Heddington and Stockley Steam Rally! Compton Bassett has a successful parish council with only 177 electors, but they have a church, pub and village hall. Lower Compton and Calstone (East Ward Part 1) have 577 electors, but no pub and no hall.

I would urge members to consider that a move to split up Calne Without Parish into smaller groups would require a great deal more thought and planning than has been given to the current proposal. If there are any further questions the Committee might wish to put to me, I will be delighted to answer them.

Christine Crisp

Wiltshire Councillor for Calne Rural Division





24 January 2020

Teresa Strange  
Clerk, Melksham Without Parish Council  
The Sports Pavilion  
Westinghouse Way  
Bowerhill  
SN12 6TL

Dear Teresa

**Community Governance Review – Scheme 11, Seend**

Some Bowerhill Residents Action Group (BRAG) members heard the submissions of Mrs Janet Giles about Scheme 11 at the Community Governance Review Public Meeting on Wednesday 22 January and spoke to her afterwards. They also spoke to Jonathan Seed from Seend Parish Council and Richard Wood and Alan Baines from Melksham Without Parish Council about suggesting a revised proposal to Scheme 11.

This revised proposal was discussed at the BRAG meeting on Thursday 23 January and it was agreed that I write to you with this proposal.

Although the Boundary Commission suggested that definite borders, in this case the canal, should be boundaries that is simplistic and not always practical.

Mrs Giles owns Giles Wood, that is the only land she owns north of the canal, and she is adamant that she wants Giles Wood to remain within Seend Parish Council area. BRAG would like the picnic area and the cycle path to come within Melksham Without Parish Council area. The revised proposal that BRAG would like Melksham Without Parish Council and Seend Parish Council to agree is that Giles Wood and the canal towpath alongside remains within Seend Parish Council area and the BRAG picnic area, cycle path and the canal towpath at the southern end becomes part of Melksham Without Parish Council area. Both these areas have defined hedges / canal that can become the new boundary. How the boundary goes around the adjoining fields and other fields mentioned in Scheme 11 BRAG neither Mrs Giles nor BRAG have any significant views, so BRAG would like Seend Parish Council and Melksham Without Parish Council to come to an agreement and if necessary, consult with landowners for their views as to where the boundary goes.

If Melksham Without Parish Council agrees with this revised proposal could they please contact Seend Parish Council to come to an agreement.

BRAG members will be completing their survey forms to this effect.

Yours sincerely

*Pauline Helps*, Secretary, Bowerhill Residents Action Group(BRAG)

**WC Note – Melksham Without Parish Council resolved to recommend the above option at their 10 February meeting**

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Chippenham Town Council,  
The Town Hall,  
High Street,  
Chippenham,  
Wiltshire,  
SN15 3ER

12 February 2020

For the attention of: Cllr. Sandie Webb, Leader

Dear Cllr. Webb,

**Petition Opposing Wiltshire Council CGR Scheme 4: Lacock**

Please find attached hereto a petition opposing Scheme 4: Lacock (the "Scheme") of the proposed Community Governance Review. The petition has been signed by all the residents who would be affected were the Scheme to come to fruition.

Although it is understood that the level of precept cannot be used as justification to disapprove the Scheme, in this particular case the precept would increase by no less than 578% (five hundred and seventy-eight percent). Given that the change in tax cannot be used to oppose the Scheme, perhaps you would advise by return what additional, tangible benefits would be enjoyed by the residents as quid pro quo for such a substantial increase.

It is noted that the households of Showell, which currently fall within Lacock Parish, are unaffected by the Scheme. Consequently, the same should apply to the eight households within Rowden Hamlet, particularly given that these fall in the centre of the proposed Rowden Country Park.

Yours sincerely,  
for and on behalf of the residents of Rowden Hamlet



**C P Blackman**

## **Petition Opposing Wiltshire Council GCR Scheme 4: Lacock**

We, the undersigned, representing every household of the Showell Ward (the "Rowden Hamlet") which would be affected by the above referenced proposed change of parish boundary, do strongly oppose the scheme both on the grounds of Community Identity and Interests, and Effective and Convenient Local Governance.

Lacock is, and always has been, the gravitational centre of the Rowden Hamlet:

- We all feel the strong physical connection with Lacock and the agricultural land use in common which characterises the very rural and historic settlement of Rowden Manor.
- We are happy with our location within the open countryside and - having no street lighting and unadopted roads - the sense of belonging to the rural Parish of Lacock Without.
- When a planning application was submitted to commence gravel extraction and subsequent tipping in the Showell area, within the Lacock Parish, the residents of the Rowden Hamlet, together with those of Showell and Lacock village, formed an action group. Working together, they averted the planning threat that would have blighted the Lacock Parish.
- We regularly visit the local hostleries, shops, post office and Abbey
- Most children from Rowden Hamlet have attended Wise Owls Nursery and the village playgroup
- We regularly undertake litter collections around Rowden Hamlet, the Pudding Brook, and the River Avon as well as joining officially organised litter collections in the village
- We have engaged with many charity events in the village and organised a musical fundraising event at the Abbey for Save the Children
- Involvement with, and support of, St Cyriac's Church, including a recent family wedding
- Restoration of many of the leaded lights in Lacock, including the Fox Talbot window in the Abbey
- Lacock Parish Council has supported the Friends of the River Valley in conservation matters
- Children from Rowden Hamlet have been invited to audition for parts in film productions
- Some of us have relatives in the village too, whose children attend the primary school.

### **History / Cultural Heritage**

The Rowden Hamlet has a long history of its relationship with Lacock, The hamlet will always be connected to Lacock. The Moated site at Rowden manor is a significant part of the Lacock Parish that would have offered protection to Lacock and the Abbey in Saxon times.

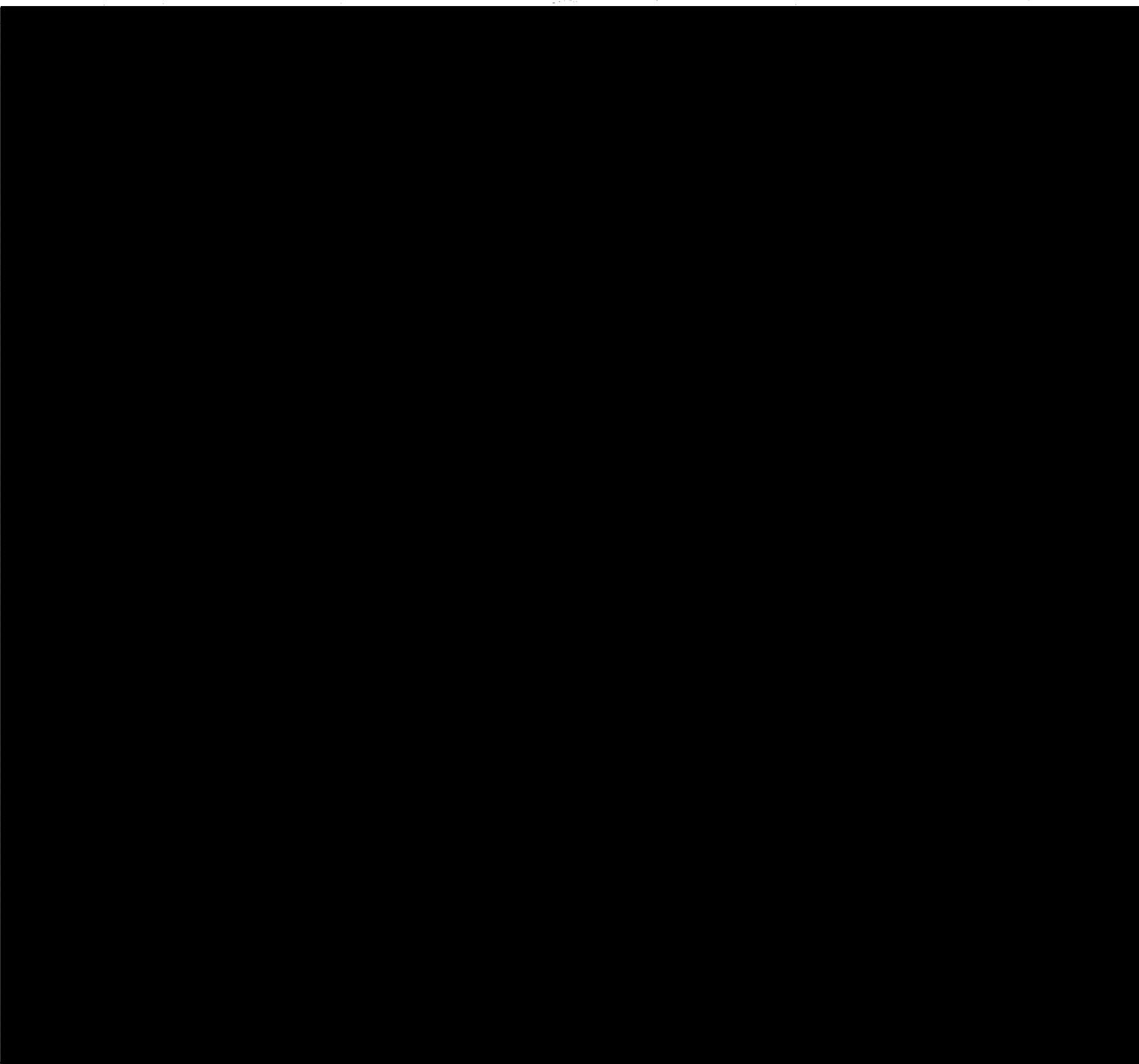
The Saxon fort and battle ground (Rowden Manor) is geographically situated next to the Saxon Church of St Cyriac's. There is only one walkable route between these two points – which, in winter time with flooding, becomes very small. This small route would have been protected quite heavily by the Saxons and with the fields peppered with oak trees that are hundreds of years old, it is evident that this line of land is very old and an important part of the Parish of Lacock.

The link between the Parish of Lacock and the Rowden Hamlet was again re-enforced in the World Wars, from our hamlet through to the centre of the Parish there is a heavy peppering of pillboxes, again reflecting the importance of this small route and part of Lacock Parish. A vulnerability that was backstopped in ancient times by the Fort at Rowden Manor.

Signature

Name

House name and Postcode



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8. A Suggested illustrative Ward structure with two options for seven and five Wards in a new Melksham Council is detailed in the following Tables.

**TABLE B**

**Proposed Seven Ward Allocation for New Integrated Melksham Council**

WC ED	Suggested Ward Description	Polling District	Estimated Voters 2018		Estimated Voters 2024		Cllrs
94	Melksham North  Split approx 20: 80	FN1	684	1900 (633)	941	2392 (797)	3
94		FN2	1101		1144		
94		FN5	35		217		
94		FR1 (part)	80		90		
97	Melksham North East	FN3	969	2403	1008	2691	3
97		FN4	739		767		
94		FW1	308		515		
97		ZY1	2		2		
97		ZY2	4		4		
97		ZY3	6		6		
97		ZZ6	191		198		
97		ZZ7	184		191		
96	Melksham East	FM3	1377	2723	1429	2859	3
96		FM4	326		338		
97		FR6	1018		1090		
97		ZY1	2		2		
98	Melksham South West	FM2	897	2229	931	2616	3
93		FZ1	654		982		
96		ZZ1	10		10		
96		ZZ2	0		0		
96		ZZ3	0		0		
96		ZZ4	132		137		
96		ZZ5	536		556		
96	Melksham South **	FM1	1721	3205	1843	3841	3, 4 or 5
95		FY1	1484		1998		
95	Melksham South East	FW2	156	1579	1036	2513	3
95		FY2	1423		1477		
98	Melksham Central  Split approx 80: 20	FR1 (part)	345	2544	363	2681	3
97		FR2	674		702		
98		FR3	39		40		
98		FR4	1183		1228		
98		FR5	648		711		
96		ZZ8	0		0		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,934</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19955</b>	<b>21 - 23</b>

\*\* Melksham South - extra voters could be addressed by having additional Councillors – either 4 or 5

Based on guidance provided in answer to my question at the 14<sup>th</sup> February pre-consultation meeting in the Assembly Hall, Melksham I have tried to allocate Polling Districts and the number of Councillors per ward to the revised boundaries authorized by the Electoral Boundaries Commission.

TABLE B(ii) below assumes that Option 24(c) is proposed to create a new Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre Parish Council.

## Suggested Five Ward Allocation for New Integrated Melksham Council

ED	Suggested Ward Description	Polling District	Estimated Voters 2018		Estimated Voters 2024		Cllrs
94	Shaw and Whitley Beanacre Parish Council	FX1	1094	1373	1141	1431	tba
		FX2	279		290		
94	Melksham North Split approx. 20: 80	FN1	684		941		4 or 5
		FN2	1101		1144		
		FN5	35	2862	217	3889	
		FR1 (part)	80	(573)	90	(972)	
		FW1	308		515	(778)	
93		FZ1	654		982		
95	Split approx 20: 80 Melksham South East	FM4 (part)	65		67		5 or 6
		FW2	156	3128	1036	4578	
		FY1	1484	(625)	1998	(915)	
		FY2	1423		1477	(763)	
96	Melksham South Split approx. 80:20	FM1	1721		1843		5 or 6
		FM3	1377		1429		
		FM4 (Part)	326		338		
		ZZ1	10	4102	10	4313	
		ZZ2	0	(683)	0	(862)	
		ZZ3	0		0	(718)	
		ZZ4	132		137		
		ZZ5	536		556		
97	Melksham East	FM1	1721		1843		5 or 6
		FM3	1377		1429		
		FM4 (Part)	326		338		
		ZZ1	10	4102	10	4313	
		ZZ2	0	(683)	0	(862)	
		ZZ3	0		0	(718)	
		ZZ4	132		137		
		ZZ5	536		556		
		ZZ8	0		0		
97	Melksham East	FN3	969		1008		5 or 6
		FN4	739		767		
		FR2	674		702		
		FR6	1018	3787	1090	3968	
		ZY1	2	(757)	2	(992)	
		ZY2	4		4	(796)	
		ZY3	6		6		
		ZZ6	191		198		
		ZZ7	184		191		
98	Melksham Forest Split approx. 80 :20	FM2	897		931		4 or 5
		FR1 (part)	345		363	3273	
		FR3	39	3112	40	(818)	
		FR4	1183	(659)	1228	(692)	
		FR5	648		711		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16991</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20021</b>	<b>23 or 27</b>

9. The integrated Ward proposals above seeks to relate adjoining Polling Districts - regardless of their original Town / Parish allocations - to seek a approximate equal balance in the number of voters served by any one Councillor – shown in brackets (voter / Councillor ratio in BLUE.
10. Population growth projection data from various sources for the Melksham Community Area suggested a rise from 24,100 (2006) to 26,590 (2011) and then up to 29,810 (2026) <sup>5</sup>.



**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW**  
**Melksham Town, Melksham Without Parish and Seend**

The Case for integrating the areas of  
Berryfield, Bowerhill and East of Melksham  
to create a new single Melksham Council

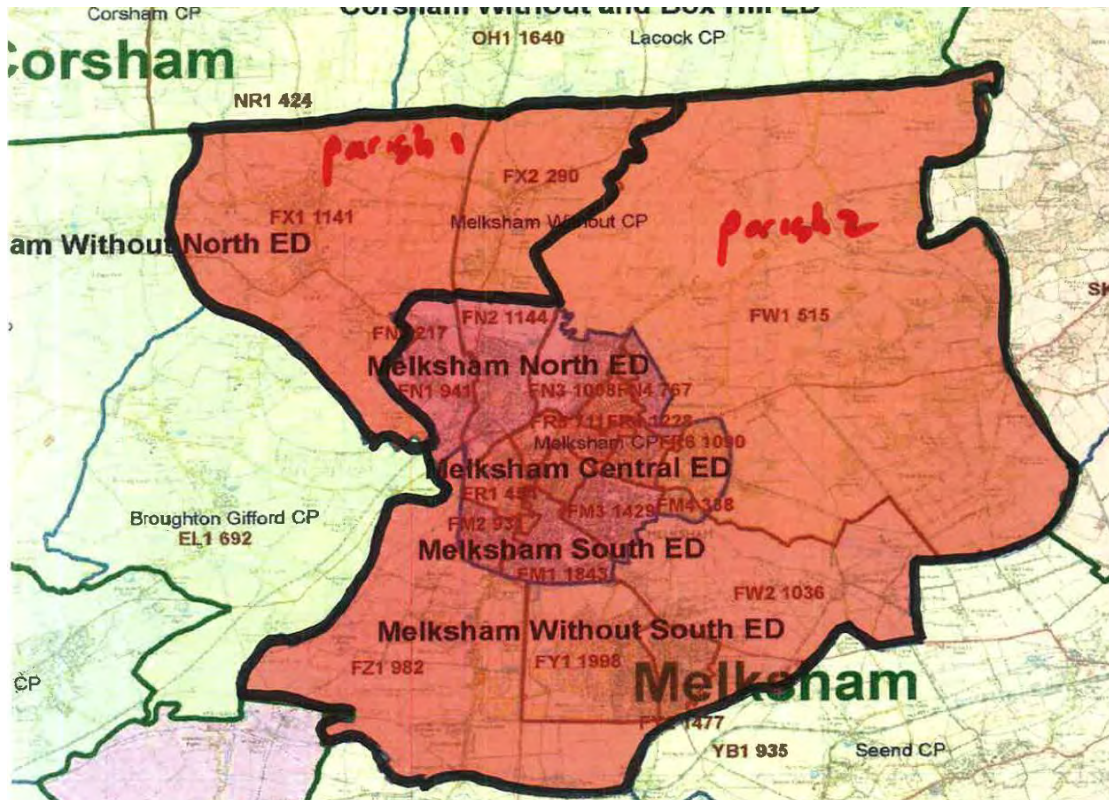
Including

- (B) creating a new Parish of Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley
- (c) transferring the BRAG land from Seend for inclusion in a new Melksham Council boundary

Prepared by

N. W

Updated 18 February 2020 at paras 8-10 to provide two ward options for the proposed new parish



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## **PROMOTING COMMUNITY COHESION: The Case for one integrated Council for Melksham**

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### **COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE PROPOSAL**

- 1. Dissolve both Melksham, Town and Melksham Without Parish Councils;**
- 2. Create a single integrated Melksham Council within the Polling Districts boundaries of (see map):**

<b>Melksham Town:</b>	FR1, FR2, FR3, FR4, FR5, FR6, ZY1, ZZ1, ZZ2, ZZ3, ZZ6	4,421 voters
	FN1, FN2, FN3, FN4, FN5, ZY2, ZY3, ZZ7	4,308 voters
	FM1, FM2, FM3, FM4, ZZ4, ZZ5, ZZ4, ZZ8	4,571 voters

**Melksham Without Parish:** FZ1, FW1, FW2, FY1, FY2 6,008 voters

**with TOTAL CURRENT ELECTORATE (excluding new housing development) 19,308 voters**

- 3. Review the number of Wards**
- 4. Create a new separate Parish to include the historic villages of Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley, with a combined current electorate within Polling Districts of FX1 and FX2 of 1,431;**
- 5. Transfer all the 'BRAG' land from Seend Parish into the proposed new Melksham Council area**

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### **THE PROPOSAL**

- Melksham is a long established market town, surrounded by agricultural farming land. In 2019, Melksham celebrated the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the granting of a Royal Market Charter. Third tier civic governance is currently provided by Town and Parish Councils; derived from the former Urban and Rural District Councils serving the industrial and agricultural nature of these former communities.
- However, new development in the Melksham area has seen rapid growth over recent years to the point that it already exceeds Wiltshire Council's 2026 housing projection. More new housing estates are currently under development, being occupied or in the pipeline – particularly to the east and south of Melksham area.
- All these developments adjoin existing housing in Melksham or the commercial and industrial premises on the large Bowerhill and Hampton trading estates. They are built on green field sites, which effectively closes the rural green buffer between Berryfield, Blackmore, Bowerhill; and the town, and further contributes to the further urbanisation of the entire Melksham local community.
- Melksham Without Parish Council (MWPC) has already transferred 750 new East of Melksham houses to the Town Council; and it is understood that in response to this community governance review is proposing to similarly transfer the 100 Sandridge Place houses and the 450 new houses under construction East of Melksham.<sup>2</sup>
- Wiltshire Council has long included Bowerhill with town for planning purposes. It's plans to achieve government demands for more houses in the period to 2036 is to transfer Melksham into the Chippenham Housing Market Area, which has a revised target of around 22,500 new houses – possibly with around 3,000 in the Melksham area.<sup>3</sup>

6. Data produced by Wiltshire Council in August 2018<sup>4</sup> suggested that the number of voters in each Polling District within the proposed integrated Melksham Council boundaries (as shown in the Map on page 2) is as indicated in the TABLE A below:

**TABLE A**

**The proposed Integrated Melksham Council boundary – by Polling District**

Ward Description	Polling District	Estimated Voters		Suggested New Ward
		2018	2024	
Melksham South 1	FM1	1721	1843	Melksham South
Melksham South 2	FM2	897	931	Melksham South West
Melksham South 3	FM3	1377	1429	Melksham East
Melksham South 4	FM4	326	338	Melksham South East
Melksham South 5	ZZ4	132	137	Melksham South West
Melksham South 6	ZZ5	536	556	Melksham South West
Melksham South 7	ZZ8	0	0	Melksham Central
Melksham North 1	FN1	684	941	Melksham North West
Melksham North 2	FN2	1101	1144	Melksham North West
Melksham North 3	FN3	969	1008	Melksham North East
Melksham North 4	FN4	739	767	Melksham North East
Melksham North 5	FN5	35	217	Melksham North West
Melksham North 6	ZZ7	184	191	Melksham Central
Melksham North 7	ZY2	4	4	Melksham North East
Melksham North 8	ZY3	6	6	Melksham North East
Melksham Central 1	FR1	431	454	Melksham North East
Melksham Central 2	FR2	674	702	Melksham Central
Melksham Central 3	FR3	39	40	Melksham Central
Melksham Central 4	FR4	1183	1228	Melksham Central
Melksham Central 5	FR5	648	711	Melksham Central
Melksham Central 6	FR6	1018	1090	Melksham East
Melksham Central 11	ZY1	2	2	Melksham East
Melksham Central 7	ZZ1	10	10	Melksham South West
Melksham Central 8	ZZ2	0	0	Melksham South West
Melksham Central 9	ZZ6	191	198	Melksham East
Melksham Central 10	ZZ3	0	0	Melksham South West
Blackmore 1	FW1	308	515	Melksham North East
Blackmore 2	FW2	156	1036	Melksham South East
Bowerhill 1	FY1	1484	1998	Melksham South
Bowerhill 2	FY2	1423	1477	Melksham South West
Berryfield	FZ1	654	982	Melksham South West
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>16,934</b>	<b>19,955</b>	
<b>AVERAGE PER WARDS (x7</b> Average per Councillor @ x3 ward		<b>2,418</b> <b>806</b>	<b>2,850</b> <b>950</b>	

7. The PARISH 2 proposal below assumes that the Melksham Council has **SEVEN** Wards each with an average voter range of around 2850 by 2024 to take account of planned new housing development. It is suggested that each Ward should have **THREE** Councillors – electing a total of 21 Councillors in total every four years – with the number of extra voters in the proposed Melksham South Ward being addressed by having extra Councillors elected - say 4 or 5 - in order to maintain balance with the average per Councillor.

8. A Suggested illustrative Ward structure with two options for seven and five Wards in a new Melksham Council is detailed in the following Tables.

**TABLE B**

**Proposed Seven Ward Allocation for New Integrated Melksham Council**

WC ED	Suggested Ward Description	Polling District	Estimated Voters 2018		Estimated Voters 2024		Cllrs
94	Melksham North	FN1	684	1900 (633)	941	2392 (797)	3
94		FN2	1101		1144		
94		FN5	35		217		
94		Split approx 20: 80 FR1 (part)	80		90		
97	Melksham North East	FN3	969	2403	1008	2691	3
97		FN4	739		767		
94		FW1	308		515		
97		ZY1	2		2		
97		ZY2	4		4		
97		ZY3	6		6		
97		ZZ6	191		198		
97		ZZ7	184		191		
96	Melksham East	FM3	1377	2723	1429	2859	3
96		FM4	326		338		
97		FR6	1018		1090		
97		ZY1	2		2		
98	Melksham South West	FM2	897	2229	931	2616	3
93		FZ1	654		982		
96		ZZ1	10		10		
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96	Melksham South **	FM1	1721	3205	1843	3841	3, 4 or 5
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98	Melksham Central	Split approx 80: 20 FR1 (part)	345	2544	363	2681	3
97		FR2	674		702		
98		FR3	39		40		
98		FR4	1183		1228		
98		FR5	648		711		
96		ZZ8	0		0		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16,934</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19955</b>	<b>21 - 23</b>

\*\* Melksham South - extra voters could be addressed by having additional Councillors – either 4 or 5

Based on guidance provided in answer to my question at the 14<sup>th</sup> February pre-consultation meeting in the Assembly Hall, Melksham I have tried to allocate Polling Districts and the number of Councillors per ward to the revised boundaries authorized by the Electoral Boundaries Commission. TABLE B(ii) below assumes that Option 24(c) is proposed to create a new Shaw, Whitley and Beanacre Parish Council.

TABLE B(ii)

## Suggested Five Ward Allocation for New Integrated Melksham Council

ED	Suggested Ward Description	Polling District	Estimated Voters 2018		Estimated Voters 2024		Cllrs
94	Shaw and Whitley Beanacre Parish Council	FX1	1094	1373	1141	1431	tba
		FX2	279		290		
94	Melksham North Split approx. 20: 80	FN1	684		941		4 or 5
		FN2	1101		1144		
		FN5	35	2862	217	3889	
		FR1 (part)	80	(573)	90	(972)	
		FW1	308		515	(778)	
93		FZ1	654		982		
95	Split approx 20: 80 Melksham South East	FM4 (part)	65		67		5 or 6
		FW2	156	3128	1036	4578	
		FY1	1484	(625)	1998	(915)	
		FY2	1423		1477	(763)	
96	Melksham South Split approx. 80:20	FM1	1721		1843		5 or 6
		FM3	1377		1429		
		FM4 (Part)	326		338		
		ZZ1	10	4102	10	4313	
		ZZ2	0	(683)	0	(862)	
		ZZ3	0		0	(718)	
		ZZ4	132		137		
		ZZ5	536		556		
97	Melksham East	ZZ8	0		0		5 or 6
		FN3	969		1008		
		FN4	739		767		
		FR2	674		702		
		FR6	1018	3787	1090	3968	
		ZY1	2	(757)	2	(992)	
		ZY2	4		4	(796)	
		ZY3	6		6		
		ZZ6	191		198		
ZZ7	184		191				
98	Melksham Forest Split approx. 80 :20	FM2	897		931		4 or 5
		FR1 (part)	345		363	3273	
		FR3	39	3112	40	(818)	
		FR4	1183	(659)	1228	(692)	
		FR5	648		711		
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16991</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20021</b>	<b>23 or 27</b>

9. The integrated Ward proposals above seeks to relate adjoining Polling Districts - regardless of their original Town / Parish allocations - to seek a approximate equal balance in the number of voters served by any one Councillor – shown in brackets (voter / Councillor ratio in BLUE).
10. Population growth projection data from various sources for the Melksham Community Area suggested a rise from 24,100 (2006) to 26,590 (2011) and then up to 29,810 (2026) <sup>5</sup>.

11. In order of size of populations by civil parish in Wiltshire, Melksham Town ranks as 7<sup>th</sup> and Melksham Without Parish is 17<sup>th</sup>. However, the combined total of one integrated Melksham Council (24,052) would rank as the 4<sup>th</sup> largest population in Wiltshire - after Salisbury, Trowbridge and Chippenham.<sup>8</sup>

## **INTRODUCTION**

12. Wiltshire Council describes Melksham as “ one of Wiltshire’s oldest towns “<sup>9</sup>. Originally a Saxon settlement on a ford across the River Avon, in medieval times Melksham became a centre for a range agricultural and wool-based cloth weaving activity. It was surrounded by farming land and served as a royal forest during the Middle Ages.
13. As the weaving industry started to decline during the early 1800s, Melksham evolved to use the closed mills along the River Avon for manufacturing purposes. In 1940, the Royal Air Force took over agricultural land in the Bowerhill area to create No 12 Technical Training School and also the Berryfield area became married quarters housing.
14. When the RAF closed these training facilities during the mid 1960’s, the land did not revert to farming but was used instead to build housing and industrial estate premises for distribution, manufacturing and warehousing. Today the land at Bowerhill and Berryfield is largely covered in houses and the large industrial and commercial estates separated from Melksham town only by the A350 and A365. These housing developments and those in Blackmore to the East of Melksham area have been built on green field sites, immediately adjoining the Town Council boundary.
15. There is high level of mutual dependency with local both town and parish residents of all ages equally using Melksham’s many facilities and services, and enjoying the local events and Festivals wherever they are located within the town or parish.
16. When asked where they come from, most parish and town residents are proud enough of their local community to respond first by saying ‘Melksham’, only sometimes then expanding to include ‘Bowerhill’. However, few local residents - especially recent ‘incomers’ - realise that the Parish Council makes little or no financial contribution towards their costs of such facilities and services.
17. Melksham faces many challenges over the coming decades if it is to contribute effectively to meeting future national and Wiltshire targets for new housing; whilst identifying the community, employment, health and infrastructure needs to support the rapidly growing local population.

## **REASONS FOR ONE INTEGRATED MELKSHAM COUNCIL**

### **Population Growth**

18. The Melksham area has experienced very significant population growth over the past few years. A lack of five-year land supply and Wiltshire’s consequential inability to resist large scale planning applications has resulted in a significant increase in the number of developments for large numbers new houses currently approved by Wiltshire Council or under construction in the Melksham area.
19. Estimated forecasts population growth for the Melksham Community Area over the period from 2001 to 2026 was forecast to rise from 24,100 to 29,810 (19%) with a projected forecast for 2011 of 26,590.<sup>5</sup>
20. However, the 2011 census showed that the population of the Melksham Community Area as being 28,343<sup>6</sup>, and more recent mid 2018 ONS data indicates this has risen again to 30,867.<sup>7</sup>
21. Information included in the recent 2020 – 2036 Melksham Town Review:
  - a) indicates that the population is split between Town (16,678), Parish (7,374) with the other rural Parishes (6,885).<sup>8</sup>

- b) in the mid 2018 order of the largest Wiltshire populations by civil parish, Melksham Town is 7<sup>th</sup> and Melksham Without Parish is 17<sup>th</sup> - but the combined total of one integrated Melksham Council (24,052) ranks 4<sup>th</sup> (after Salisbury, Trowbridge and Chippenham).<sup>9</sup>
22. Public domain data reported by the Wiltshire and Swindon Information Network (WSIN) reports that the 'Mid-2018 Lower-layer Super Output Area Population estimates' file produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) indicates the population of Melksham community area has now grown to 30,867 <sup>7</sup>.
23. Respective town and parish websites claim 23,000 and 7,500 residents <sup>10</sup> - a total for the Melksham Community of 30,500, which is broadly in line with the ONS figures.
24. So during the intervening period from 2011 to 2018 census, the population of the Melksham Community Area has grown significantly to a point that it already exceeds the Wiltshire Council's previously projected population for the year 2026.
25. This data is also broadly supported by figures produced by the recent review of Wiltshire Electoral Divisions produced by the Local Government Boundary Commission,<sup>11</sup> which has allocated the registered voters to each Melksham Division according to the Table below.

<b>URBAN (Melksham Town)</b>		<b>RURAL (Melksham Without)</b>	
Melksham East	4183	Melksham Without North & Shurnhold	3,907
Melksham Forest	4196	Melksham Without South & Rural	3,845
Melksham South	4,128		
<b>TOWN</b>	<b>12,507</b>	<b>RURAL</b>	<b>7752</b>

These figures do not take account of under-age or non-registered adult residents in the Melksham area.

This allocation reflects Wiltshire's need to 'balance its county wide electoral Division' rather than representing voter needs of the Melksham Community.

### **The Future Housing Market**

26. Tables in Wiltshire Council's Chippenham Housing Market Report (2017) confirms that the target for 2,370 new homes needing to be built in the Melksham Area has already been achieved – and will exceed the target for future development to 2026 – so the revised target is zero new units.
27. Even though Melksham's 2026 housing target has already been exceeded, more new housing developments are currently under development / occupied or are in the pipeline having been approved by Wiltshire Council for the area.
28. More new housing is currently under development, being occupied or in the pipeline within the boundaries of the proposed single Melksham Council area. Melksham area. Large scale developments are taking place East of Melksham Extension (450), Sandridge Place (100), Bowood View off the Semington Road (150), Pathfinder Way, Bowerhill (235) – a total 935 new homes with another 70 units is various smaller projects in the town area.
29. These developments all adjoin existing housing in Melksham and further contribute to the urbanisation of the entire local community.
30. Wiltshire Council's future plans to meet the government's targets for new housing by the year 2036 is to transfer Melksham into the Chippenham Housing Market Area, which has a revised target of around 23,000 new houses by 2036. Inevitably this means over 2,500 more houses for Melksham. <sup>12</sup>



## Addressing Resident Concerns

31. There is growing public concern that community infrastructure investment is not keeping pace with new house building within the Melksham area. Residents currently see no apparent commitment between the two Councils to adopt common policies that require developers to provide the essential community, education, employment, health and infrastructure facilities / services to serve Melksham's rapidly rising population as a whole. This is becoming a matter of discussion in the letter pages of local media.
32. Integration of Polling Districts into one integrated Melksham Council need not change the character of established local communities nor the expectations of residents.
33. This is becoming a matter of discussion in the local media. Recent suggestions in the local press that creation of one integrated Melksham Council might double the precept for parish residents might be politically motivated mischief to 'maintain the myth' of 'village status', but the discussion reflects the fact that many local people are now questioning if the present split civic governance of two Councils representing Melksham residents is any longer 'fit-for-purpose'.
34. Also being discussed is the allocation of precept and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding, which is supposed to be allocated to provide the community infrastructure, retail and transport facilities needs of local communities. However the rapidly growing population of the Melksham community as a whole has not benefitted since relevant regulations came into force in April 2010.
35. Some examples of poor decision making arising from the lack of a consistent civic governance approach are:
  - a) the plan to locate a primary school within the site of the Pathfinder Way development, to served pupils from this estate and the 450 new East of Melksham homes, which necessitates parents and their children having to cross the busy A365 Western Way unprotected at peak times when traffic is accessing the Bowerhill houses and industrial estates;
  - b) the allocation of the one million pounds offered by developers towards providing more secondary education places to the Oaks Community School without any engagement or consultation with local parents and residents;
  - c) the planners recommendation to refuse a request from the NHS for £150,000 - and accepted by developers - as a funding contribution towards meeting the cost of hard-pressed GP health resources struggling to meet the needs of the more patients than predicted for 2026 arising from new housing development - rejected in the planning process as no immediate use of the funds was identified in the parish area.
36. Many residents are simply not aware that the split governance arrangement even exists – and certainly what the impact might be in terms of providing facilities and services. They assume that there is only one Council with this responsibility - and they expect equitable sharing of the costs of providing the facilities and services that both town and parish residents rely on. Melksham needs better understanding and commitment to provide the facilities and services needed by the local community across the age range.
37. One Council would be better placed to liaise and collaborate in partnership with Wiltshire Council and other statutory / voluntary sector partners to plan, fund and provide the essential facilities and services to keep pace with Melksham's rapidly growing residential expansion.
38. These partners should benefit from reducing their administration costs and the pressure on their staff, resources and time needed to deal with just one Council; who in turn should also be able to more efficiently manage decision-making and an expanded staff team for the benefit of all Melksham residents.

## **BENEFITS OF ONE INTEGRATED MELKSHAM COUNCIL**

39. Overtime, the integration of the Polling Districts identified in the foregoing paragraphs 6 and 8 to create one single Melksham Council would be better placed to deliver benefits for local third tier community governance, for local residents, and also to Wiltshire Council.
40. One Council would be better placed to liaise and collaborate in partnership with Wiltshire Council and other statutory / voluntary sector partners to plan, fund and provide the essential facilities and services to keep pace with Melksham's rapidly growing residential expansion.

### **Local Governance**

41. The benefits for local community governance of an integrated single Melksham Council are likely to be opportunities:
  - a) to promote Melksham as one integrated Council serving a population of 24,052, which would rank as the 4<sup>th</sup> largest population in Wiltshire;
  - b) for the local community to deliver a more cohesive message when demanding the facilities and services needed to support its very rapidly increasing population and to use its resources to significantly enhance the local urban community as a whole;
  - c) a much stronger voice when decisions are being made about how and where Melksham develops for the future – building on its position as the 4<sup>th</sup> largest urban population in Wiltshire;
  - d) to create a credible and viable longer-term Melksham Neighbourhood Plan to 2036;
  - e) set future precepts to fund the facilities and services needed to support and benefit all Melksham residents;
  - f) to efficient use of the expanded resources and staff in Council planning and implementation of policies to achieve economies of scale and deliver essential facilities and services;
  - g) to strengthen the democratic balance of elected representation for the Melksham community by widening the geographic eligibility area to attract applications from residents, including existing town and parish Councillors, to offer themselves for election.

### **Local Residents**

42. The benefits of one integrated Melksham Council for local residents are likely to be opportunities:
  - a) to demand the facilities and services that are needed to support a very rapidly increasing population and the resources to significantly enhance our local town.
  - b) to use the single Council status to address resident concerns about lack of investment to provide the essential community, education, employment, health and infrastructure facilities / services to serve Melksham's rapidly rising population as a whole;
  - c) to offer a much stronger voice a single source when decisions are being made about how and where Melksham develops for the future;
  - d) to reduce the cost of supporting two Councils by making more efficient use of the expanded resources and Melksham staff team available to enhance the whole Melksham community;
  - e) to strengthen Council planning and implementation of policies to achieve economies of scale and deliver essential facilities and services more efficiently;
  - f) to equitably share CIL, grant and other sources of funding and the setting of fairer future precepts to provide the facilities and services needed to support and benefit all Melksham residents;
  - g) to help create an even stronger progressive community spirit in Melksham for the benefit of young and older residents of all ages.

## **Wiltshire Council**

43. Wiltshire Council is also likely to benefit from into one single Melksham Council by:
- a) reducing Wiltshire Council's administration costs and officer time needed to:
    - liaise and carry out partnership working with one council rather than two;
    - carry out more efficient engagement to obtain community feedback;
    - avoid and resolve conflicting consultation feedback on development and implementation of Wiltshire Council plans, policies, and strategies;
    - create a viable organisation to enable the transfer or upkeep of assets that Wiltshire Council can no longer afford to maintain;
    - administer the collection and distribution of future precepts for one Council rather than two in the Melksham area;
    - comply with legislative requirements in dealing with planning applications.
  - b) creating enhanced opportunities for more efficient and effective partnership working to plan and deliver Wiltshire Council's Core Strategy policies, plans, facilities and services in the Melksham area;
  - c) scope to integrate Polling Districts across the Melksham area to better relate to availability of Polling stations;
  - d) a much stronger voice when decisions are being made. In short, we need more say about how and where Melksham develops for the future;
  - e) efficient use of the expanded resources and staff in Council planning and implementation of policies to achieve economies of scale and deliver essential facilities and services;
  - f) ensuring that a democratically viable third tier Council exists in Melksham with strengthened elected representation to articulate and help create an even stronger progressive community spirit for the benefit of local residents of all ages.

## **PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT**

44. Even though the combined Melksham population ranks the area as 4<sup>th</sup> largest within Wiltshire, there is no apparently consistent economic and strategic planning to provide essential employment facilities nor to alleviate local traffic congestion.
45. Wiltshire Council's current Core Strategy seems to view Melksham's role as being a largely domiciliary area, with a significant proportion of local residents seeking employment via outward commuting to Bath, Bristol, Swindon and farther afield – including along the M4 to London. This is evidenced by the higher than planned traffic congestion on Melksham roads at peak period and the surge in use of local rail services through Melksham Railway Station.
46. However, this no longer accords with the amount of manufacturing and other commercial accommodation in the town nor changes in the work-life balance expectations of modern society.
47. Melksham has succeeded over recent years, in attracting a number of major new employers to the area - Avon, Knorr Bremse, Gompels, GPlan, Herman Miller, Travelodge, and Wiltshire Air Ambulance - offering a range of jobs and broadening the range of skills required locally.

### **Employment**

48. Wiltshire Council records that " the proportion of employment in the manufacturing sector is the highest in Wiltshire (well above average both locally and nationally) and employment in the retail sector is also above average<sup>13</sup>.

49. Comparative analysis of the commercial premises in Melksham indicates space, position and number of premises against other urban areas in Wiltshire show:<sup>14</sup>

	Sq Mtrs	Postition	Premises
<b>WILTSHIRE</b>	<b>1,520,000</b>	-	<b>2,779</b>
industrial	203,000	1st	187
office	14,000	7th	124
warehouse / distribution	193,000	2nd	103

50. Wiltshire Council's Core Strategy identifies that currently land is allocated for employment use in the Melksham area is primarily located in the Bowerhill and the Hampton Park trading estates in the parish adjacent to the A350 Semington Bypass; and at the Cooper Tires and Avonside Park sites in the town area north of the River Avon.
51. These sites provide employment for local people in a range of distribution, manufacturing and warehousing businesses. Other, largely low skill part time or zero contract, jobs are provided in the supermarkets, town centre shops and other local community retail premises; and at a range of local pubs and restaurants.
52. An integrated strategic approach will be needed to take advantage of future economic and employment creation opportunities. These could be created by the release of a substantial acreage of brownfield sites in both the town and parish – for example, arising from the recent decision by Cooper Tires to relocate most of its manufacturing activities overseas and Wiltshire Council's closure of the Christie Millar Sports Centre site.
53. Attracting a wider range of artisan, local and national retail outlets and improved car parking facilities as part of a long-overdue town centre regeneration project is needed to enhance the shopping experience of Melksham and other local residents.
54. This can best achieved by a single integrated Council promoting the town's combined population as the fourth largest town in Wiltshire. A single Melksham Council would be well placed to adopt a strategic vision of how the redevelopment of these projects as employment land sites can be achieved. This would broaden the experience, expertise and skills mix needed to support the local economy; and encourage schemes of apprenticeship, training and up-skilling within the local workforce. As a start to progress this approach, the Town Council is employing an Economic Development Officer to promote the benefits of locating businesses in Melksham.
55. The limited retail provision serving the Berryfield, Bowerhill and East of Melksham communities is consistent with the small district community developments now found in other local urban conurbations such as Chippenham and Trowbridge.
56. A single Melksham Council would also be well placed to ensure that the area benefits from its central location along the A350 north-south corridor linking to the M4 motorway and Poole; from future enhancement of the local highway network; and from the greatly improved rail links with the enhancement of its own station but also easy access to the national network via Chippenham, Trowbridge and Westbury.

### Strategic Projects

57. One integrated Council is needed to provide a cohesive economic development strategy for the entire Melksham community. A strong voice is needed to promote several other local strategic projects that need to be explored to boost the local economy and create new employment

- opportunities in Melksham to take advantage of the town's central location along the A350; especially for large scale strategic and canal / highway projects
58. There is, as yet, no strategic vision for investing in the development of sustainable future economic and employment opportunities for the Melksham area agreed by the town and parish. The Town Council is developing proposals for regenerating the town centre, and some progress is belatedly being made via the long delayed evolving Neighbourhood Plan.
  59. Wiltshire Council has previously identified land adjoining the Bowerhill trading estate as SHLAA sites with development potential for housing, but which might be better suited for employment purposes. Also some smaller brownfield sites exist in the town. An integrated approach is better placed to develop a plan for their development, regardless of location within an integrated Melksham Council boundary.
  60. A strategic vision for the regeneration of Melksham's Town Centre, coupled with a cohesive plan for the redevelopment of any spare acreage at the Cooper Tires and Avonside Park sites, has the potential to create a significant number of new jobs for Melksham residents.
  61. In July 2017 Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group identified a requirement to update the primary care facilities and services for the 120,000+ patient population of Bradford – Chippenham – Melksham and Trowbridge communities.<sup>15</sup> Amongst other things, this included provision of a 'hospital hub'.<sup>15</sup> The proposal created an opportunity, then supported by the landowner, to take advantage of Melksham's central location for creating a new build facility immediately adjacent the A350 Semington Bypass and next to the Wiltshire Air Ambulance Base. This has not progressed as yet due to changes within the NHS Estates organisation, which have recently been implemented, but may still be an option for consideration, especially as the Damian GP surgeries is seeking to close in March. Investment in health related facilities will create many multi-skills jobs and be very beneficial in sustaining the economy of the Melksham area.
  62. Wiltshire's Core Policy includes the safeguarding of land running through both the parish and town to restore the Wiltshire and Berkshire Canal.<sup>16</sup> The development to restore a link from the Kennet and Avon Canal to the town centre will initially create construction jobs and deliver some new housing. Once completed the proposal has major implications for both parish and town areas, as it potentially offers the prospect of providing additional community facilities, boosting the local tourism economy, and delivering environmental and recreational benefits.
  63. Following a highways review that identified an much higher level than expected of traffic movements along the A350, Wiltshire Council has recently completed a transitional improvement of the Farmers Roundabout to reduce congestion. Longer-term Wiltshire Council has identified, with support from both town and parish, several options to meet the need for a by-pass round the east of Melksham.<sup>17</sup>
  64. Although both Berryfield and Bowerhill have village Halls, the Berryfield one is no longer fit for purpose and needs to be replaced. This is reliant on developer contributions arising the new housing development along the former Semington Road.
  65. Many jobs will be created during the construction phase of all the above projects, followed thereafter by a range of skilled / unskilled and full / part local employment opportunities – all of which will contribute towards the long-term economic prosperity of the whole Melksham community and of the wider Wiltshire.

#### **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

66. The intention of the CIL legislation introduced in the 2008 Planning Act was to use a one-off payment made by property owners / developers to help fund the cost of providing the local infrastructure needed by communities to support increased population arising new housing developments. However the community of Melksham as a whole has not benefitted since the relevant Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations came into force on 6th April 2010.<sup>17</sup>

67. The resources of a single integrated Council working with Wiltshire Council and local partners can more efficiently enhance the wellbeing of all Melksham residents by using Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and other funding to deliver enhancement of such projects as the King George V Park, the Assembly Hall, the Library, and sports facilities at the Melksham House Campus, and the ongoing maintenance of allotments, green spaces, play areas local footpaths / cycle-ways.
68. A more efficient allocation of CIL funding is required to provide the community, infrastructure, retail and transport facilities needs of the rapidly growing population of Melksham. Under current arrangements, the parish benefits from the CIL funding because that is where most of the new housing is located. Unfortunately, many of the hard pressed facilities and services that residents rely on are located in the town. A single integrated Melksham Council would resolve this problem.
69. Wiltshire Council reported that in the 2016 Boundary Review the Parish Council has already recognised that where houses in new developments sit better with the town they should be transferred.<sup>2</sup> Around 750 houses have already been transferred and the Parish Council is now proposing to transfer a further 550 houses from East of Melksham and Sandridge Place developments. This suggests that the parish recognises these new housing developments are eroding the green buffer zones with the town and are contributing to the urban expansion of the whole of the existing Melksham communities.
70. The proposal to transfer this new housing should therefore carry with it the CIL funding in order to enable infrastructure developments that will benefit all local Melksham residents. This has not been the case to date. Instead the hard pressed local community, education and health facilities and congested highway network are expected to cope with existing arrangements without any investment for the future to cope with the increasing local population.
71. The work to achieve these transfers is an unnecessary administrative burden on Wiltshire Council and other relevant bodies, which could be avoided by transferring Berryfield, Blackmore and Bowerhill areas to create single integrated Melksham Council; and establishing a separate Parish for Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley.
72. One integrated Council for Melksham representing all local residents would be better placed to enable a strong local voice to be established for the community in its relationship with Wiltshire Council, other public bodies and local landowners / developers to ensure that CIL funding is used more effectively to identify and implement a planned strategic vision of what facilities and infrastructure to support a rapidly growing local population.

### **Education and Training**

73. Historically, secondary education in Melksham was broadly focused on meeting the engineering, scientific and technical skill requirements of the town's main employer - Avon / Cooper Tires. Secondary education for most young people of Melksham is now provided in one secondary school (Melksham Oaks Community School), which relocated to a green field site on the town / parish boundary along the A365 Devizes Road.
74. Developers of the new East of Melksham houses have offered one million pounds towards providing secondary education places. This has been allocated to address growing demand pressure on places at Oaks Community School, which is already reaching capacity. The school is seeking to expand by constructing new or temporary classrooms – but the school 'has limited further development potential'.
75. This funding has been allocated without any engagement or consultation with parents and local people. There is a view amongst some parents and residents that a second secondary school will be needed in Melksham to provide some choice and address the demand for places for the growing population. There is also some concern as this new housing development will drag more children along or crossing already congested roads. There is evidence that some secondary age children are already accessing school places in Corsham, Chippenham and Trowbridge.

76. Similar capacity issues exist for the primary schools serving Melksham Children. This is partially being addressed by the plan to locate a new primary school within the site of the Pathfinder Way housing development. This will draw pupils from this development and the 450 new East of Melksham homes but necessitate parents and their children to travel by car or risk crossing the busy A365 Western Way at peak times for traffic access the Bowerhill houses and industrial estates.
77. The assignment of the Canberra Youth Centre to Young Melksham to provide youth services to local young people is very welcome, but was achieved largely through the efforts of a voluntary community group with grant aid support from Wiltshire, the town and parish. A stronger integrated local voice might have achieved this outcome much quicker.
78. Further education is accessed at Wiltshire College campuses in Chippenham, Lackham and Trowbridge. It is likely that wider education and training skills will need to be available to Melksham residents as the range of local employment opportunities expands and the community and their personal aspirations evolve.
79. Land use development must go hand-in-hand with skills development if Melksham is to fully contribute to the future economic prosperity of the area and Wiltshire as a whole. There is currently a lack of a jointly evolved strategic vision for educating, support, training and skills development for the people of the town and parish which can only really be overcome by creating one integrated Melksham Council with the resources and skills available to identify and underpin residents' needs in future collaborative working with Wiltshire Council and other agencies.

### **Highways and Transport**

80. It is reported that Wiltshire Highways Department's most recent analysis of traffic flows around Melksham confirms 30,000 – 40,000 movements per day, which is far more traffic using the A350 than it's previously planned capacity. Traffic congestion is encountered on a regular basis along Western Way, around the Farmers Market roundabout and on other roads into Melksham. This shows that the local road network cannot cope with this volume of traffic and fully justifies the recent upgrade work undertaken as a temporary fix.
81. However, the A350 is becoming an increasingly important north-south route. An Eastern by-pass around Melksham is one of several schemes that have been proposed to the Department of Transport by the Western Gateway Sub-National Transport Body for potential future funding. The recently approved government funding for a bypass around Chippenham is questionable given the investment in upgrading the A350 to the west of the town. However either routes could then be extended to take most of the heavy vehicles and tourist traffic around Melksham – away from most of the residential areas. A long-term by-pass solution for Melksham is long overdue.
82. Both the recently opened eastern distributor road – built largely from housing developer contributions – and the Semington by-pass have both been designed to allow for eventual dual carriageways to allow for the extra traffic likely to be using local roads and the A350 in the future. Both the Parish and Town Councils support the development of an Eastern by-pass in principle – but an integrated Council may be better placed to work with Wiltshire Council, the Highways Agency and other partners to progress this.
83. There are still details that need to be considered, consulted upon, and finalised. It is vital that a strong Melksham voice is heard to achieve the significant community, education, health and infrastructure investment comes with - or preferably before – any new large scale new housing developments. This can best be achieved by a single integrated Council for Melksham working with partners to insist on robust conditions imposed on developers to invest in these infrastructure requirements.
84. The huge increase in rail traffic <sup>18</sup> using Melksham Station for employment, education or leisure purposes is testament to the move towards using public transport services by local people.

## **THE TWO COMMUNITIES ARE MUTUALLY DEPENDENT**

85. Geographically, the Parish almost surrounds the Town boundary. Although much of the new housing is located at the fringes of the town, there is a high level of mutual dependence in the use that residents from both Council areas make of local facilities, services and infrastructure, wherever they may be located within the town or parish boundaries.
86. Town and Parish residents already share the use of Melksham's existing public and voluntary facilities / services that provide community, education, employment, entertainment, health, highway, leisure, play areas and open spaces, retail, social and transport.
87. Entertainment, community, social and recreation facilities for residents are provided within the town boundary at the Assembly Hall, in the King George V Park, the library, at the hospital and the three GP surgeries, in the Market Square, and in the future at the Campus. Recreational and sporting facilities - and most of the employment - currently exist within the parish but this will change when Melksham House Campus opens. Every year thousands of Melksham residents and people from much farther afield flock to the town to enjoy the Carnival, Christmas Lights, Food and River Festival, Party in the Park and the many shows and community activities hosted in the Assembly Hall.
88. The town centre area is the focal point for the main supermarkets, both national and local 'high street' business and retail services, and various market activities.
89. Demand pressure in Melksham for both primary and secondary school places is likely to intensify with future new housing developments; as will patient needs for local primary health and social care facilities services placed on the already overworked local GP surgeries – one of which (St Damians) is seeking to close, forcing patients to reregister with the other two or going to Bradford.
90. Residents from both town and parish make good use of local public transport services. Community public transport links around the Melksham area link passengers at the 'hub' in the Market Square to bus services to Bath, Chippenham, Corsham, Devizes, Frome and Trowbridge; and to the adjacent taxi rank.
91. The increase in number of trains calling Melksham railway station and the consequential upgrading of the platform has led to a surge in passenger numbers –raising Melksham to the highest percentage increase in passenger use in Britain <sup>A12</sup> - and greatly improving rail access via Chippenham, Salisbury, Swindon, and Westbury to the national network.
92. The many voluntary and community groups operating in the Melksham area provide facilities and services to local residents without making any distinction about which part of the wider local community they come from. Both the Town and Parish Councils provide grants – often together - to support these activities and the public events described.
93. Since 2014, the Town and Parish Councils have been working together to support the production of a long-delayed evolving Neighbourhood Plan to address local land use and planning issues within their respective boundaries. One of the reasons underpinning this joint approach was to produce a Plan to promote community cohesion, logical infrastructure and a united vision for when a boundary review takes place. Five years down the line, no Plan has yet been forthcoming and the process has not yet reached Regulation 14 stage in the adoption process, which - together with the lack of five-year land supply and consequential inability to resist large scale planning applications - has allowed developers to turn many green fields in and around Melksham into housing estates.
94. More recently, both Councils have agreed to collaborate on creating a mini country park in the Shurnhold Field. Both these projects take a joint strategic overview of the use of land, which falls within the control of both Councils, but much of the maintenance is now being undertaken by local volunteers with support.



95. However, there is growing public concern that provision of the facilities, infrastructure and services needed to support our rapidly increasing 30,000 plus population in Melksham are not keeping pace with plans for future new housing developments. A single integrated Council for Melksham would be well placed to reflect these concerns with local partners and to be an agent to spur delivery of plans to ensure that local people get the support that the community needs.

#### **REVIEWING THE 'VILLAGE STATUS' ARGUMENT**

96. Dictionaries define a 'parish' as being a "unit of local government in rural England <sup>19</sup>, often coinciding with an original ecclesiastical parish" <sup>20</sup>. Neither Bowerhill, Berryfield nor the land East of Melksham have their own church - they are all part of the parishes of St Michaels Melksham – within the Town boundary - so do not meet the test of coinciding with an original ecclesiastical parish.
97. Historically, the market town of Melksham was surrounded by land devoted to farming. The land at Bowerhill was largely agricultural until 1940 when the Royal Air Force took it over to create the No. 12 Technical Training School and build married quarters housing in the Berryfield area. When these were closed during the mid 1960's, the land did not revert to farming but was used instead to build housing and industrial estate premises for distribution, manufacturing and warehousing.
98. Today the land at Bowerhill and Berryfield is largely covered in houses and the large industrial and commercial estates separated from Melksham town only by the A350 and A365, so becoming urban conurbations.
99. These housing developments and those in the East of Melksham area have been built on green field sites, immediately adjoining the Town Council boundary. For years Wiltshire Council planners have considered that Bowerhill is part of Melksham for planning purposes.
100. More recent planning decisions have allowed housing development of over 250 new houses on the land off Pathfinder Way, 150 along the Semington Road and a further 450 house off the Spa to extend along the south east of Melksham.
101. These developments further eradicate the rural buffer gap between the town and parish. The failure to protect the green space rural buffer between Melksham town and the Bowerhill and Berryfield communities effectively neutralises the aspirations of some of local residents to maintain the illusion of 'village' status.
102. Within the parish figures, the population of Bowerhill is reported as being 3000 electors, and of Berryfield being around 1,000 people <sup>21</sup>. This is supported by the numbers of electors registered in the Bowerhill Polling Districts.
103. On paper, this number of electors should be sufficient to sustain a case for an application for a separate Parish Council. This option has been explored but discarded - largely because of
- a) the lack of historical recognition of 'village status' for Bowerhill;
  - b) the identity of Bowerhill as a village is subsumed within the Melksham Without Parish, and is not considered separately in dealings with Wiltshire Council and other statutory bodies;
  - c) the high level of mutual inter-dependency for community, employment, entertainment, facilities, services and road networks between the Bowerhill and Melksham communities;
  - d) new housing development has closure of the green buffer area between the communities;
  - e) the unusually high level a industrial, office and warehousing premises located in trading estates more usually found in urban areas;
  - f) recent experience suggests that the parish has struggled to attract enough candidates offering themselves for election to serve as Councillors.

- g) Integration of the Town and Parish Councils into a single Melksham Council creates a much stronger voice for local residents in dealings with Wiltshire Council and other statutory and voluntary bodies;
  - h) and provides an opportunity to establish a cohesive economic development strategy covering housing, employment, recreation, retail, skill development and transport.
104. The fact is that over the past seven decades Berryfield, Bowerhill and most recently East of Melksham have increasingly become large urban housing estate communities as green fields have been developed.
105. Melksham needs to build on the pride, community spirit and volunteer commitment that delivers the successful Carnival, Christmas Lights, Food and River Festival, Melksham in Bloom, Parkrun, and Party in the Park – all events that the parish makes little or no funding contribution towards.
106. Conclusion – the argument that Bowerhill and Berryfield should be called historic rural villages within a Parish Council area can no longer be sustained because these communities:
- (a) do not meet the test of a link to an original ecclesiastical parish;
  - (b) much of the land in these communities and east of Melksham are now largely covered by housing or industrial premises;
  - (c) recent Wiltshire Council planning approvals for new housing have largely eradicated the rural buffer with the town;
  - (d) the high level of mutual dependency for residents accessing the range of Melksham facilities and services.

**For all the reasons outlined in the foregoing paragraphs, it is suggested that the Polling Districts listed in paragraphs 6 and 8 of this document, formerly being in the Melksham Town and Melksham Without Parish Council boundaries, are integrated to form a new Parish to be called Melksham Council.**

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## CREATING A NEW PARISH COUNCIL FOR BEANACRE, SHAW AND WHITLEY

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107. The Collins English Dictionary defines a ‘parish’ as being a “unit of local government in rural England, often coinciding with an original ecclesiastical parish”.<sup>20</sup> Both Beanacre and Shaw have parish churches - so meet the ecclesiastical parish definition test.
108. The three adjoining Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley communities have connecting boundaries; and are located in rural settings located to the north west of Melksham. Shaw and Whitley are recognised as being historical villages and ancient centres of population.
109. There has been little significantly large-scale new housing development and population growth within their boundaries of any these villages to breach the rural buffer between them and Melksham town.
110. The Parish Council already recognises the combination of Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley as a separate Ward for election and representational purposes.
111. Using Wiltshire Council’s Polling District data, the estimated number of voters in each Polling Districts listed in the following table indicates how a Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley Parish Council would compare with other immediately adjoining Parishes.

### Proposed New Parish 1 - Beanacre Shaw and Whitley

Parish	Polling District	Estimated Voters		Cllrs
		2018	2024	
Atworth	EC1	945	981	9
<b>Beanacre Shaw and Whitley</b>	<b>FX1, FX2</b>	<b>1094 279</b>	<b>1141 290</b>	<b>9 or 11 suggested</b>
Broughton Gifford	EL1	667	692	11
Keevil	FH1	371	385	7
Lacock (Corsham Without)	OH1	828	1640	11
Seend	YB1	901	935	11
Semington	GF1		839	9

112. This data tends to support the Melksham Without Website report that the total population of the respective communities as Beanacre (300), Shaw (500) and Whitley (1,000) – a total of c1,800<sup>xx</sup>, and other adjoining local parish websites report their populations as being Atworth (1,275), Broughton Gifford (813), Keevil (437), Seend (1095) and Semington (969).
113. All of these adjoining parishes are viable and operate successful Parish governance arrangements<sup>xy</sup>. A strong case exists for these three outlying rural Parishes to be given greater self autonomy to build closer links on geographical grounds. So it is therefore argued that, taken together, Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley are also big enough to sustain their own Parish Council.



114. There is a vibrant action group of volunteers (Community Action Whitley and Shaw (CAWS), of which all residents of the two villages are automatically residents, who might provide a basis for creating a viable governance arrangement.
115. Melksham Town Council has indicated their support for this proposal.

**For the reasons outlined in the foregoing paragraphs, it is suggested that the Polling Districts listed in paragraphs 104 to 112 of this document, formerly being in the Melksham Without Parish Council boundary, are integrated to create a new Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley Parish**

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## TRANSFERRING THE 'BRAG' PICNIC AREA LAND FROM SEEND PARISH TO MELKSHAM COUNCIL

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116. In their response to this civic governance consultation, Melksham Without Parish Council is reported to have requested the transfer of the BRAG 'canal picnic area' land from Seend Parish Council. The proposal is worthy of serious consideration and support.<sup>2</sup>
117. The land suggested to be transferred is situated on the Melksham side of the Kennet and Avon Canal, immediately adjoining the Bowerhill housing estate.
118. The site is maintained by BRAG – a group of volunteers forming the Bowerhill Residents Action Group, who maintain the site and carry out a range of other community projects.
119. The site provides an important recreational amenity, which is widely used by Melksham residents from town and parish. Most of the public access to this land is generated from the Bowerhill side of the canal.
120. The Local Government Boundary Commission is recommending that Seend is transferred out of the Melksham Community Area.
121. The Parish Council's proposal to include the 'BRAG' site with the rest of the Bowerhill estate is therefore entirely logical.

**For the reasons outlined in the foregoing paragraphs, it is suggested the proposal that land known as the BRAG 'canal picnic area' formerly being in the Seend Parish Council boundary is transferred into the proposed new Melksham Council area.**

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## ORIGINAL SUBMISSION TO COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

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Please submit my comments to the community governance review consultation in respect of the Melksham, Town, Melksham Without and Seend area. I suggest for your consideration:

1. Merging the Bowerhill, Berryfield and East of Melksham areas into the current Melksham Town boundaries to create a single integrated Melksham Council with five Wards;
2. Creating a new separate Parish including the historic villages of Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley;
3. Transferring all the 'BRAG' land from Seend Parish into the proposed new Melksham Council area

Melksham Town Council and Melksham Parish Council have been working together for several years to support the production of an evolving Neighbourhood Plan. During this period, the Melksham Community Area has experienced very significant population growth to 30867<sup>1</sup>, which in 2019 already exceeds Wiltshire's core policy 2026 target Population Estimates and Forecast of population for the area of 29810<sup>2</sup>

Historically, land east and south of Melksham was devoted to farming, until Bowerhill became RAF Melksham before becoming housing and industrial estates and Berryfield became married quarter housing. More recently, green fields east of Melksham have been developed to meet housing needs.

Even though Melksham's 2026 housing target has already been exceeded, more new housing developments are currently under development / occupied or are in the pipeline having been approved by Wiltshire Council for the area. Evolving housing developments on the Pathfinder Way and along the Semington Road and the commercial and industrial premises on the large Bowerhill and Hampton trading estates have effectively closed the rural buffer between the Town and Parish Council areas.

Melksham Parish Council has already transferred around 750 houses to the Town Council, and now suggests transferring several hundred houses more of these new houses to the Town Council. In reality, Bowerhill, Berryfield and East of Melksham are not villages - they are large urban housing estates.

Town and Parish residents share the use of Melksham's existing public facilities and services – but there is growing public concern that provision of community, education, employment, entertainment, health, highway, leisure, play areas and open spaces, retail, social and transport infrastructures are not keeping pace with these housing developments. I share the views of many local people who question if the present civic governance arrangement of two Councils representing Melksham residents is any longer 'fit-for-purpose'.

Melksham faces many challenges over the coming decades if it is to contribute effectively to meeting future national and Wiltshire targets. A very strong business case can be made to show how a single integrated Melksham Council would be better placed to (a) understand and reflect the needs of local people of all ages, and (b) to deliver economies of scale and enable efficient, constructive contribution towards future collaborative working with Wiltshire Council and other statutory bodies in the planning and delivery of infrastructure facilities and services to meet the demands of a rapidly growing population. I therefore suggest Proposal 1 above for consideration.

Conversely Beanacre, Shaw and Whitley are recognised as being historical villages and ancient centres of population areas, with connecting boundaries in rural settings located to the north of Melksham. There is a vibrant action group of volunteers (Community Action Whitley and Shaw (CAWS), of which all residents of the two villages are automatically members, who might provide a basis for creating a viable governance arrangement. There are already many smaller parish Councils with smaller populations within the Wiltshire County boundary that are viable. I therefore suggest Proposal 2 above for consideration.

The 'BRAG' land is situated on the Melksham side of the Kennet and Avon Canal area, maintained by the Bowerhill Residents Action Group, and with general public access from the Bowerhill area. Seend is being transferred out of the Melksham Community Area so it seems logical to include the 'BRAG' site when the rest of the Bowerhill estate is merged to create a new integrated Melksham Council. I therefore suggest Proposal 3 above for consideration.

Thank you.

Nick Westbrook 29 Sandridge Road, MELKSHAM SN12 7BQ

29<sup>th</sup> November 2019

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## SOURCES

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- 1 Wiltshire Core Strategy – TABLE 5.9 Delivery of Housing 2006 – 2026 - Melksham
- 2 Melksham Without Parish Council Full Council Minute 101 / 19 – 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- 3 Chippenham Housing Market Area – Individual Settlement and Housing Market Profile – 2017
- 4 Electoral Forecast Data – August 2018
- 5 Population Estimates and Forecast – Table 2.0A Wiltshire Intelligence Network
- 6 Melksham 2011 Census Data - Wiltshire Council
- 7 2018 Community Area Population, Smaller Area Populations Chart – WSIN
- 8 Melksham Town Review 2020 – 2036 Demography Table – page 35
- 9 JSA for Melksham Community Area Executive Summary - page 6
- 10 Respective Melksham Town and Without Parish Council websites at 12.2019
- 11 Wiltshire Final Recommendations – Local Government Boundary Commission
- 12 Chippenham Housing Market Area 2017 (page 34) - Wiltshire Council
- 13 JSA for Melksham Community Area Executive Summary (page 14)
- 14 Melksham Town Review 2020 – 2036 Demography Table – page 6
- 15 Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group - July 2017
- 16 Wiltshire Core Strategy
- 17 Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations - 6th April 2010.
- 18 Trans Wilts data
- 19 Penguin English Dictionary (page 642) - Penguin
- 20 English Dictionary and Rogets' Thesaurus (page 623) - W H Smith
- 21 Melksham Without Parish Council website at 12.2019

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## Elliott, Kieran

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 21 February 2020 12:00  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Scheme 40 Derry Hill & Studley proposed new council  
**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Kieran

I write in respect of Scheme 40 both as a West Ward Parish Councillor and resident in Derry Hill for the last 40 years.

I do not understand why there is any need to change the Parish of Calne Without as it has functioned in the interest of all within the Parish

for many years regardless of which Ward.

The claim by a comparatively new Councillor of winning hands down by vote of Derry Hill & Studley inhabitants is a misstatement.

Some voters I know have told me they were coerced into voting purely to get rid of the promotor whose aims I still do not understand. It did

not and still does not take into account the views of the whole Parish. Those West Ward councillors who are against the scheme were vilified

in the Parish Magazine for not taking into account the views of those who voted yes, despite them not knowing the ramifications for the rest of the Parish.

If it is a question of the number of representative councillors in West Ward, as Derry Hill & Studley has grown over the years, then it would be easily solved by increasing their number from 8 to 9 or 10..

In my view the parish as it is, is stronger as a whole and it would be totally wrong to abandon our colleagues from the more rural parts of the parish.

I sincerely hope the proposition to form a council of Derry Hill and Studley will be rejected by the reviewing panel.

Kind regards

Richard French

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 22 February 2020 20:35  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Calne without parish council

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Mr Elliott,  
As residents of Stockley, we'd like to stay part of Calne Without Parish.

[REDACTED]

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 24 February 2020 20:10  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Kieran Elliott Regarding the Community Governance Review Scheme 29 the boundary between West ward and Pewsham ward looks like that there is a anomaly but the boundary was probably in place when the parish of Calne Without Parish Council was formed. As Derry hill has had more development the boundary has remained it's original place, i cannot see that this is a problem as long as councillors remember where the boundary is.

Scheme 40 I do believe that taking Derry Hill and Studley out of Calne Without Parish Council, will leave parts of some wards disconnected from the larger wards. Will they be incorporated into other parish councils with little or no say, whether they want to, or the rest of Calne Without Parish Council disbanded and incorporated into other parish councils. How long would this take and what happens to the CIL funds will these stay in the wards where they was generated.

It seems that the rush of some of the West Ward councillors to have a parish of Derry Hill and Studley leaves a lot of questions of what happens to the rest of the parish council. The councillors in Calne Without Parish Council work for all the residents, through discussions and voting.

Yours Sincerely  
Adrian Satchell Calne Without Parish Councillor (middle ward)

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 25 February 2020 13:49  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** I have had difficulty trying to obtain info from your web site.

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Most of the info on the County web site refers to past reviews. It is Not user friendly.

I was also surprised at the make up of the committee reviewing the comments. I felt it should be made up of equal Parish & Town constituencies, it too heavy weighted once again of parish constituencies.

I wish to support the latest proposals from MELKSHAM Town Council for a newly elected one Council incorporating Bowerhill, they parishes on the west of the A350 should merge into a Without type Council. MELKSHAM growth has been incredible in recent years and is still expanding. There is a need for more amenities , a stronger community input and a revised political landscape. A merger of Bowerhill and Berryfield will achieve that and most of all cater for all our main areas in the centre of MELKSHAM that are linked by schools, retailing, leisure, transport, community groups and work.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

of equal

Sent from my iPad

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**Elliott, Kieran**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 25 February 2020 17:34  
**To:** CGR  
**Subject:** My views on the MELKSHAM review

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I wish to support the latest proposals from MELKSHAM Town Council for a newly elected one Council incorporating Bowerhill & Berryfield. I believe that it would create closer community harmony on the west of the A350 by merging the small parishes such as Shaw, Beanacre etc into a Without type Council, for they have so little in common with Bowerhill and Berryfield from retailing and community links compared to the Town.

MELKSHAM growth has been incredible in recent years and it is still expanding. There is need a need for more amenities , alongside a stronger community input and a revised political landscape. A merger of Bowerhill and Berryfield with Melksham Town would help to achieve that aim, also most of all it would cater for all our main areas in the centre of MELKSHAM that are linked by schools, retailing, leisure, transport, community groups and with even work based for so many people living in our expanding Town.

I also believe it gives great support to the communities desire to create that ambitious Age Friendly community and use of our new campus.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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## Elliott, Kieran

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**From:** Ioan Rees [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 26 February 2020 07:39  
**To:** Elliott, Kieran  
**Subject:** Community Governance Review Survey - Derry Hill Petition (scheme 40)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** Electoral Review

Dear Kieran

Hope you are well.

I understand from our Parish Clerk that you have kindly agreed to accept email responses to the Community Governance Review Survey. Many thanks for this as I find the survey form quite difficult to type and navigate.

I am responding to scheme 40 as a resident and organiser of the petition and an elected parish councillor for the West Ward of Calne Without Parish Council, my post code is SN11 9NF

### Response to Survey

I am in full support of a separate parish council for Derry Hill and Studley and fully endorse the proposal and additional information supplied for Scheme 40.

I don't intend to repeat all the reasoning previously provided in the additional information but would like to highlight the major growth and change in the character of Derry Hill and Studley. The community has a clear and cohesive identity with very few tangible links to the rest of Calne Without. Derry Hill and Studley are already designated by Wiltshire Council as a large settlement that will grow further. The petition has received overwhelming support from residents of the two villages and even greater support from Old Derry Hill and the surrounding Pewsham Ward.

Virtually the only opposition to the proposal comes from members of Calne Without Parish Council, through its resolution that "*The residents of Derry Hill & Studley will not be better served by a separate parish council for Derry Hill & Studley and it would be to the detriment of Calne Without*"

The parish council despite being challenged to go further and give reasons for this conclusion has declined to give any explanation of its reasoning

I believe there is no doubt that the proposals reflect the identity and interests of the local community as well as creating a more effective and convenient governance for the local area and the remaining parts of Calne Without. The only area of doubt in most people's mind surrounds whether the residual part of Calne Without is better served by becoming a smaller Calne Without parish or joining with neighbouring councils where strong links exist such as Heddington, Cherhill and Bremhill. Both alternatives are eminently practical and would provide more effective and convenient governance than currently. Although the residual Calne Without would be smaller than the current parish it would still probably be the largest parish in the Calne area expected to rise to almost 1500 voter by 2024, more than big enough to be a viable parish in its own right.

However as petitioners we felt it was not appropriate for residents of Derry Hill and Studley to influence or dictate in any way the choices of residents of more distant parts of the parish. Unfortunately representatives of those areas, having set their faces so strongly against a separate parish from even before the petition was initiated, have not explored local opinion on the future shape of the council in their area. I have seen strong support for a Heddington/Stockley council from residents of Stockley who attended a Heddington parish meeting but apart from that, no meaningful consultation has taken place

In the meantime there is much heightened interest by residents of Derry Hill and Studley in parish council issues with a number of residents expressing strong interest in becoming councillors in a more cohesive and local parish of Derry Hill and Studley. To delay the Community Governance Review of Derry Hill & Studley would risk huge disappointment and public cynicism in the democratic process and the principles of localism.

I would like to suggest that the Electoral Review Committee recommend that the a separate parish council for Derry Hill and Studley be formed from May 2021 with the residual part of Calne Without continuing if necessary as a separate council until full consultations on its future are conducted with residents and the affected neighbouring councils. A limited further Community Governance Review could then be conducted if there was support for restructuring parish councils to the area.

The proposed boundary of a separate Derry Hill and Studley parish is entirely within the Calne Rural Division so would not impact on the Boundary Commissions decisions. However, one of the boundary commissions decisions was for the northern part of Middle Ward (north of the cycleway along the former Calne railway line) to become part of West Ward in order to remain part of the Calne Rural Electoral Division. That area of around 90 voters, includes the hamlet of Fishers Brook, part of the hamlet of Ratford (the other part being in Bremhill Parish) and a number of houses around the A4 near Chilvester Hill.

If this area, which the Boundary Commission need to be in the Calne Rural Division, were to remain in the "residual" Calne Without PC it would need to be at the approval of the Boundary Commission. it would also need to become a separate ward as it could no longer become part of the Middle ward without disrupting voter numbers between Calne South and Calne Rural. There should be no issues with allowing it to be a separate ward until the future of a residual Calne Without was decided, the Boundary Commission have already acceded to Calne Without's request to retain Sandy Lane as a separate ward of Calne Without with only 60 to 70 voters.

Alternatively, the 90 voters in question could be included as part of a separate Derry Hill and Studley parish council, at least until a consultation and CGR on joining with neighbouring parishes. This would not require any agreement from the Boundary Commission as it would make no changes to their proposed wards or Wiltshire Electoral Divisions. Ultimately the Ratford and Fishers Brook settlements may very well wish to be part of Bremhill PC (or possibly Derry Hill & Studley for voters living near the A4) but this shouldn't be decided without consultation. Whilst the petition did not propose that this area should be included in a separate parish for Derry Hill and Studley, I doubt that there would be objections to the area being part of the new parish for a period to hold consultations on future governance arrangements.

In summary I feel the case for a separate council is so compelling that measures should be put in place for it's introduction at the May 2021 election. Urgent consultation with neighbouring parishes and residents to determine the future structure of Parish councils covering the residual part of Calne Without should be initiated as soon as possible. If those consultations cannot be completed in time for the 2021 elections both Derry Hill & Studley and the residual part of Calne Without should form two separate parish councils at the 2021 election, with continuing consultations and a further CGR, if required, to determine the future of the residual Calne Without. The option of including the Ratford/Fishers Brook area in the residual Calne Without PC should be discussed with the Boundary Commission and the fall back of including the area in a separate Derry Hill & Studley parish taken up if the Boundary Commission has objections.

Many thanks to Wiltshire Council members and officers for conducting the consultation survey and public meetings to allow this Community Governance Review. Whilst I was not able to attend the meeting in a Derry Hill due to long standing holiday arrangements, I do appreciate the effort required to consult the public across wide areas of the county.

Kind regards

Ioan Rees

Sent from my iPad

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Community Governance Review Response Form

Please select which Scheme you are responding to:

Scheme 24 - Melksham Merger

Please indicate the capacity in which you are responding:

A resident of the area affected by the proposal

Do you support or oppose this Scheme?

Oppose

Using the criteria required for Community Governance Reviews below, please indicate on what grounds you support or oppose this Scheme

Community Identity and Interests

With the current situation there are strong and prosperous communities. The Melksham Without Parish reflects the more rural aspects of the areas it covers so providing services and support which identify with the interests in the various villages and communities around Melksham town. The new housing that is being built around much of the town could easily identify with Melksham town but the other housing to the east of Semington Road is still a more rural area. With only one Melksham Town parish the distinct identities of the various parts of the Melksham without Parish would be lost which would be a great pity and could cause lack of community cohesion and thus could affect identity and prosperity.

Effective and convenient local governance

The present situation works extremely well as at present the governance is effective as it engages with the local communities providing representation and support. Why Change what works effectively? A merger would create a council that would need to be larger and thus less likely to be an effective body. When you have to rely on volunteers to carry out the role, the number of councillors that would be effective for governance of the larger area would ultimately mean an increased work load for each member and this is unlikely to attract a cross section of age groups and skill base in the communities involved. At present you know who to approach so contact is very convenient for residents and this is less likely to be the case with a larger council.

Submit

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**CGR representation typed from handwritten note**

Dear Sir,

First, I'm not too fond of surveys and rarely agree to them. The space on the form is too small, so I will explain.

Mills Road and some of the other roads close to Blackmore road have long been neglected. A private housing estate some 45 years ago, now anything but.

You've allowed all kinds of people in with your housing associations and private rented properties and worse allowed any shape and form of building on the front of them. This creating one hell of an untidy muddle. Worse are the footpaths round the greens. Yes the grass get cut nicely. But the weeds and rubble you call footpaths are a disgrace. We are told they are not essential. The road has been filled out later about 5 times. Not successfully. Now it's going to have patches! Well yes I [uncertain word] and lack of money!

But when I go to town there it is pretty tidy, footpaths paved, church walk with pretty cobbles for footpaths and flower beds [uncertain word] while us people that pay the same council tax walk on rubble. It makes me wonder what the long term plan is for this area.

And so when you say boundaries, this clearly being melksham without all I can say its true to its title. It surely is without a clue, so I truly don't care what you lot do to the boundaries because I'm past caring as to what goes on!

Ps 45 years since the road was resurfaced.

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MICHELLE DONELAN MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

RECEIVED  
05 MAR 2020

Cllr Richard Clewer  
Deputy Leader  
Cabinet Office  
County Hall  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
BA14 8JN

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020


Dear Cllr Clewer,

I am writing on behalf of the residents of Rowden Lane Chippenham who have contacted me to express their concerns regarding the proposed boundary change.

There are 8 households in Rowden Lane who, under the current proposals, are being moved from Lacock Parish Council to Chippenham Town Council. My constituents feel they have strong cultural links with Lacock Parish Council, and I hope you will consider all the details my constituents have provided in a full and timely manner.

Thank you for your urgent attention in this matter and if you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle Donelan MP  
Member of Parliament for the Chippenham Constituency

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Dear Mr Elliott,

Mr Eaton has copied me in on his email to you about the CGR. I too am deeply concerned by the land-grab that towns in Wiltshire are apparently embarked on and have discussed with villages potentially affected. I intend to discuss it with the Leader of the Council shortly.

Mr Eaton has laid out his concerns extremely well and I would be grateful if you could copy me in on your response.

Many thanks.

Best wishes,

Andrew Murrison

Kindest Regards

Jennifer Murrison (Mrs) email [jennifer.murrison@parliament.uk](mailto:jennifer.murrison@parliament.uk)

**Senior Researcher**

**Office of Rt Hon Andrew Murrison MD MP**

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**Andrew's Privacy Notice:**

[www.andrewmurrison.co.uk/privacy-notice](http://www.andrewmurrison.co.uk/privacy-notice)

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**Subject:** Community Governance Review - Reorganising Calne Without Parish Boundaries

Dear Cllr Clewer

Many thanks to you and other members of the Electoral Review committee for giving your time to attend last month's consultation meeting at Derry Hill. I understand the meeting was well attended by elected members and residents of the parish. As the organiser of the petition to create a separate parish council for Derry Hill and Studley, I would have very much liked to have attended the meeting. Unfortunately I was in Australia travelling and visiting close friends, a journey which I had committed to long before embarking on the petition.

I have responded to the Wiltshire's consultation survey but wanted to contact you and your fellow members of the committee to ask you to consider recommending a two stage review outlined below.

I believe there is no doubt that the proposals for a separate parish for Derry Hill & Studley reflect the identity and interests of the local community as well as creating a more effective and convenient governance for the local area as well as the remaining parts of Calne Without. The only issue in doubt in most people's mind surrounds whether the residual part of Calne Without is better served by becoming a smaller Calne Without parish or joining with neighbouring parish councils such as Heddington, Cherhill and Bremhill where strong links already exist. Both alternatives are eminently practical and would provide more effective and convenient governance than currently. Although the residual Calne Without would be smaller than the current parish it would still probably be the largest parish in the Calne area, expected to grow to almost 1500 voter by 2024, more than big enough to be a viable parish in its own right.

However, whilst there is very clear support through the petition signed by 767 voters for a new parish for Derry Hill & Studley there seems little evidence of what the residents of the remaining parts of Calne Without want and even less evidence of what the neighbouring parishes would like.

I can appreciate the difficulty Wiltshire Council face having had, what amounts to, a two year moratorium on Community Governance reviews in order to allow the Boundary Commission to complete their tasks. It will now inevitably prove difficult to resolve the backlog of so many boundary change proposals within the expected one year time scale and meet the committee's terms of reference to review both the Derry Hill proposals and the remainder of Calne Without.

In the meantime there is much heightened interest by residents of Derry Hill and Studley in parish council issues with a number of residents expressing strong interest in becoming councillors in a more cohesive and local parish focused on Derry Hill and Studley. To delay the Community Governance Review of Derry Hill & Studley would risk huge disappointment and public cynicism in the democratic process and the principles of localism.

I would therefore like to suggest that the Electoral Review Committee consider a two stage review. The first stage would be for Wiltshire Council to create two separate parish councils one for Derry Hill & Studley as well as a new Calne

Without PC representing the remainder parts of the current Calne Without. Both parishes should be in place to elect their first councillors at the May 2021 election.

An arrangement of two separate parishes would both respect the clear wishes of the voters of Derry Hill & Studley and give time for voters of the residual Calne Without and the neighbouring parishes to consider the future. Wiltshire Council could commit to an early second Community Governance Review that could establish any agreed new arrangements to combine the remaining parts of Calne Without with neighbouring parishes. In the event of there being no consensus on combining with neighbouring parishes the two councils of Derry Hill & Studley and the remaining part of Calne Without would continue to operate successfully as two separate parish councils

This second stage would involve consultations with voters in the residual parts of Calne Without and neighbouring parishes where there were reasonable opportunities to combine, such as Stockley and Sandy Lane with Heddington PC, Calston and Lower Compton with Cherhill PC and Ratford and Fishers Brook with Bremhill PC. This would almost certainly mean that the second stage would extend beyond May 2021.

You quite rightly highlighted at our meeting in December that Wiltshire Council may need to seek the Boundary Commissions approval if it's CGR proposals would result in significant changes to the Commissions Electoral Division boundaries or its other consequential changes. Fortunately it is quite possible to create the two separate parishes without any change to the Boundary Commissions new Electoral Divisions. It simply needs to allow the northern part of Calne Without's Middle Ward, which the Boundary Commission proposed should become part of West Ward, to be a separate ward within the residual Calne Without PC.

This northern area, (north of the Calne-Chippenham cycleway which cuts through Middle Ward) according to the Boundary Commission has around 90 voters, predominately in and around the areas of Ratford and Fishers Brook. The Boundary Commission needed this area to be within the Calne Rural Division to achieve equitable voting numbers between divisions. A new 'North' Ward formed from this area would not disturb that equality as it would remain part of the Calne Rural Division along with the West, Pewsham and East Wards, exactly as intended by the Boundary Commission. With 90 voters it would not be a large ward but would be considerably larger than the Sandy Lane Ward which currently has only about 60 voters, and which Calne Without PC successfully lobbied the Boundary Commission to retain.

Bearing in mind that this may be an interim position with the aim to hold second stage consultations within the residual Calne Without PC and the neighbouring parishes, I think the voters of this northern area who have little connection with Stockley and the rest of Middle Ward would see their community connections very much with Bremhill PC which is also part of the Calne Rural Division. Indeed, half of the properties in the hamlet of Ratford are actually already in Bremhill PC.

Alternatively, to avoid making any changes to the Boundary Commissions proposals, the 90 voters in question could be included as part of a separate

Derry Hill and Studley parish council, at least until a second stage consultation could be undertaken and a CGR on joining with neighbouring parishes. This option should not require any agreement from the Boundary Commission as it would make no changes to their proposed wards or Wiltshire Electoral Divisions. Ultimately following a second stage of consultations the Ratford and Fishers Brook settlements may very well wish to be part of Bremhill PC and at that point the Boundary Commission should be approached.

Whilst our petition did not propose that this area should be included in a separate parish for Derry Hill and Studley, I doubt that there would be objections to the area being part of the new parish for a period to hold consultations on future governance arrangements particularly as some or the 90 voters living near the the A4 may well consider that even in the long term they should be part of a Derry Hill & Studley parish

**In summary,** I believe the case for a separate council for Derry Hill & Studley is so compelling that measures should be put in place for it's introduction in time for the May 2021 election. Consultations with neighbouring parishes and residents to determine the future structure of parish council boundaries covering the residual part of Calne Without should be initiated as soon as is practical. If as I fear those consultations will take some time and cannot be completed for the 2021 elections, both Derry Hill & Studley and the residual part of Calne Without should form two separate parish councils with their councillors elected at the 2021 election. Detailed consultations with voters and neighbouring councils and a further CGR to determine the future of the residual Calne Without could then go ahead without delaying the initial restructuring of Calne Without into two more coherent and focused parishes. The option of initially including the Ratford/Fishers Brook area in the residual Calne Without PC should be discussed with the Boundary Commission. Should the Boundary Commission have objections to this approach, the fall back option should be taken up, of including the area in a separate Derry Hill & Studley parish until the second stage of consultations and CGR can be completed.

I'm sorry about the length of this email but I hope you and the other members of the Electoral Review Committee will look favourably on this suggestion as I think it offers a practical and the most acceptable way forward. I have also copied this email to the officers that I understand are closely involved in the review, hopefully they will be able to confirm that these proposals are workable.

I you or any of your fellow members of the committee wish to contact me I would be very happy to clarify any points or discuss any issues regarding my suggestion.

Kind regards

Ioan Rees

Organiser of the petition for a separate parish council for Derry Hill & Studley.

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Comment from local resident – attached as additional to paper form (with two separate submissions)

#### Scheme 40

##### Question 6 – Community identity and Interests

In the general area of Derry Hill and Studley there are many individual properties such as farms and small hamlets of around ten to twenty dwellings. At present, as residents of Fisher's Brook, we associate with businesses and facilities in Derry Hill and Studley and know that we are integrated within the overall parish of Calne Without. The proposal as it stands appears to serve only Derry Hill and Studley residents and in some respects shuns those in the nearby rural area. It would in effect be fundamentally divisive to the overall community and its interests.

##### Question 7 – Effective and Convenient Local Governance

At present the region to the west and north west of Calne forms a significant proportion of the Calne Without Parish. The needs of this whole area are significant in the management of the parish and there is significant enough population density to ensure that our needs are catered for by the councillors of Calne Without. By removing the higher density of Derry Hill and Studley from Calne Without it is possible that the remainder of this general area will cease to have any great significance for the Calne Without council. This would therefore not be in accordance with the principles of effective and convenient local governance

##### Question 8 – possible revision to the listed scheme

Whilst we understand the reasoning behind the current proposal, we believe that for the above criteria to be met for the whole of the existing calne without parish subsequent to the creation of a new parish of Derry Hill and Studley, it is necessary to consider all of the calne without parish boundaries and how each settlement within calne without goes forward. It is, for example, reasonable to merge some areas of the calne without parish with neighbouring parishes. Perhaps Bremhill might absorb the isolated dwellings and hamlets in the west and north region of calne without. Any such changes should all be implemented at the same time rather than in the piecemeal manner that approval of Scheme 40 would lead to.

##### Question 9 – Other factors to be taken into account

The proposal that a new parish of derry hill and Studley be formed has considered only the benefits to the residents of those two areas. The potential negatory effect on the remainder of the calne without parish appears to be completely ignored. At present the calne without parish encompasses areas of sparse population density and more densely developed areas such as Derry Hill. Should the proposal for Derry Hill and Studley be accepted it would seem that the sparsely population areas to the immediate west and north west of calne would become a virtual island with respect to the remainder of calne without parish.

If the west and north west area of calne without parish were to be incorporated within the parish of Bremhill at the same time as the proposed Derry Hill and Studley Parish is formed it would ensure that the rural needs of the residents in the northern portion of the calne without parish middle ward would be met.

I believe that the Derry Hill and Studley proposal should be rejected by Wiltshire Council at present and a more comprehensive plan for the whole of this general area should be put forward. Failure to

do this leaves areas such as Fisher's Brook at risk of being subsumed within the Calne Town council's area. This we do not want at all.