

BISHOPSTROW BOUNDARY REVIEW INFORMATION @ JULY 2014

1. Since 2006, Bishopstrow's Parish Meeting Chairmen have annually requested a review of the Village boundary in response to requests by residents whose properties are near its current boundary.

Essentially, this review allows the Village to recognise and update any such historic boundary anomalies brought about by land ownership changes, inaccurate address and signage development by the relevant authorities over many years and address the changing needs, expectations and opportunities of village and local residents to better meet and comply with the increasing development of 'Localism' now and in future whilst maintaining its unique village identity.

1. A. At a Village meeting in 2006, it was agreed by attendees that the residents of properties addressed as Nos 3, 4 (Riverside House), 5, 6, 7 and 8 Bishopstrow should be recognised as being part of the Village. The residents have, for many years, been thought of and treated as such in terms of awareness and involvement in village life and activities.
B. There are also many residents in properties that lie within and between our boundary of Bishopstrow's main street and our boundary at Yew Tree Farm junction with Middleton Farm Lane on the A3414 to Norton Bavant who, historically, consider themselves to be part of Bishopstrow and again, who have been contributory to the historic success of the village and its activities.
C. There are also properties whose buildings and grounds and land ownership are partially within our boundaries and those of Warminster, Norton Bavant and Sutton Veny.
D. A request was made to Wiltshire Council in 2006 relating more particularly to A above, and has annually been followed up with it. The reasons for not progressing with this request, in the main, have been the transforming and subsequent settling of Wiltshire Council as a unitary authority and the regularity and occurrence of elections, be they local or national.
2. Bishopstrow consists of 65 households and approximately 125 residents.
3. The attached map indicates our current boundary in **yellow**.
4. After initial consultation between the current Parish Meeting Chairman, Parish Clerk and the most recent Parish Meeting Chairman with whom contact has been maintained with Wiltshire Council, the attached map indicates a proposed altering of Bishopstrow's boundary in **red**.
5. A. This proposal seeks to correct the above mentioned anomalies and requests of local and village residents.
B. It seeks to strengthen Bishopstrow's status as a village settlement encompassing its Areas of Archaeological Interest, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Historic Parks and Gardens, and Conservation Area as defined in WC's West Wiltshire District Plan 2004.
C. The proposal also strengthens Bishopstrow residents' wish to remain a village settlement and separate from Warminster's future conurbation – keeping its unique community identity.
D. It also supports the Village's recent discussions with Cranborne Chase AONB for clarification and inclusion of the AONB next boundary review.
E. The proposal, as suggested in the relevant Guidance document provided, uses natural elements of rivers, copses, land ownership, Rights of Way, Bridlepaths, etc to provide a marked boundary line.
F. The proposed new boundary would encompass approximately 25 more households.
G. The Village's current discussions about establishment of a Parish Plan would include this development, thus providing a platform for involvement by a greater number of residents' and community identity.
H. It may also provide the Village with an opportunity to seriously consider development in to a Parish Council if its future health as a community is seen to be beneficial by doing so.

Sheila Thomson

Past Parish Meeting Chair

August 2014.

On behalf of Mike Perry, Bishopstrow Village Chair, and Andy Pragnell, Bishopstrow Village Parish Clerk

