



Bishop's Cannings Parish Council

c/o 3, The Island

Horton

Near Devizes

Wiltshire

SN10 3LY

21st September 2015

John Watling

Head of Electoral Services

Wiltshire Council

Dear Mr. Watling,

Community Governance Review

Thank you for your letter of 2nd September regarding the two proposed schemes that affect Bishop's Cannings parish. These were considered by the parish council at its meeting on 10th September and it was determined to make the following response:

(i) With regard to the scheme covering the Le Marchant barracks area - the council fully concurs with the suggested boundary change.

(ii) With regard to the Broadway House area (known locally as Little Coate) - the council disagrees with the suggested change and wishes to make a counter proposal.

The council does not believe that the change in boundary suggested in this latter case is consistent with DCLG CGR guidance, which states that " a community governance review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to **firm ground features**" (our emphasis).

The attached map sets-out the council's proposed boundary change encompassing both of the schemes described above. The blue lines are existing parish boundaries and the black broken line represents the council's proposed change.

In detail this involves:

From the point on the A361 where the current boundary runs SE of Prince Court and parallel to Hambleton Avenue,

- the new boundary will continue along the A361 to the junction with Windsor Drive and then follow Windsor Drive to the mini-roundabout junction at Nursteed School;

- the boundary will then travel East along Roundway Byway 14 to the point where it becomes Bishop's Cannings Byway 28. From this point on the current boundary, the rest of the parish boundary will remain unchanged.

The implications of this change will be:

- All of the houses in the following roads, currently in Roundway, will be transferred to Bishop's Cannings:

Franklyn Road	Canal Way	Kingsmanor Wharf	Kingfisher Drive
Beechwood Close	Mallard Close	Le Marchant Close	Cygnets Close
Ash Walk	Beechfield Drive	Waterside Park	Willow Drive
Hillier Road			

- Clayhole Cottages and Coate Field House will be transferred from Roundway to Bishop's Cannings.
- Nursteed School will remain in Roundway reflecting its primary catchment and the area known as Little Coate will remain in Bishop's Cannings reflecting its historical association.

The parish council gave consideration to the value of using this opportunity to align the parish boundary south of Nursteed School with the road network rather than the Nursteed Brook as at present. This would make the boundary coincident with a more obvious ground feature. However, this would involve a change for the houses in Nursteed Village and is probably an unnecessary complication and thus has not been pursued.

Although reference is made in the Le Marchant barracks scheme to a review of warding in Bishop's Cannings parish - no formal proposal has been put forward.

The parish council strongly believe that the existing warding arrangement should be abolished and a unified wardless parish established. The DCLG CGR guidance states that "when considering ward boundaries principal councils should consider the desirability of fixing boundaries which are and will remain easily identifiable." The current situation with some roads in the Cannings Hill Ward area allocated to the Bishop's Cannings Ward simply to redress the numerical imbalance is confused and illogical. This situation is likely to be exacerbated when homes in the new development at Laywood are constructed.

Yours Faithfully,

Eric Clark

Clerk to the Parish Council.