

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW STAGE 1 CONSULTATION OUTCOME

March 2023

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Introduction

A Community Governance Review (CGR) provides an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries which reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. It can take place for the whole or individual parts of the district to consider one or more of the following:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- The naming of parishes and the style of new parishes/town councils
- Electoral arrangements for parishes/town councils including:
 - the ordinary year of election
 - the number of councillors to be elected; and
 - the warding (if any) of the parish/town councils.
- Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes.

The Council is required 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
- Effective and convenient

In doing so, the CGR is required to take account of:

- The impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
- The size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish council

Terms of Reference

The Council has considered the requirements listed above when drawing up the objectives and questions that proposals for changes will be assessed against.

The Council also had regard to the Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

Methodology

Comments were invited from interested parish and town councils in July and August 2023.

West Northants Council then undertook a consultation between 28 November 2023 and 31 January 2024.

The survey was carried out online and alternative formats available on request. The survey was open to the Parish and Town Councils that had expressed an interest in the pre consultation process. Community Groups and residents were also invited to comment.

The consultation sought views and/or proposals about existing parish boundaries, numbers of Councillors and whether any new parishes should be created or existing parishes abolished or merged and where these should be.

Data was provided as part of the consultation on the existing sizes and populations of parishes as well as links to maps of the parished areas. The [terms of reference](#) for the review was also included as background information.

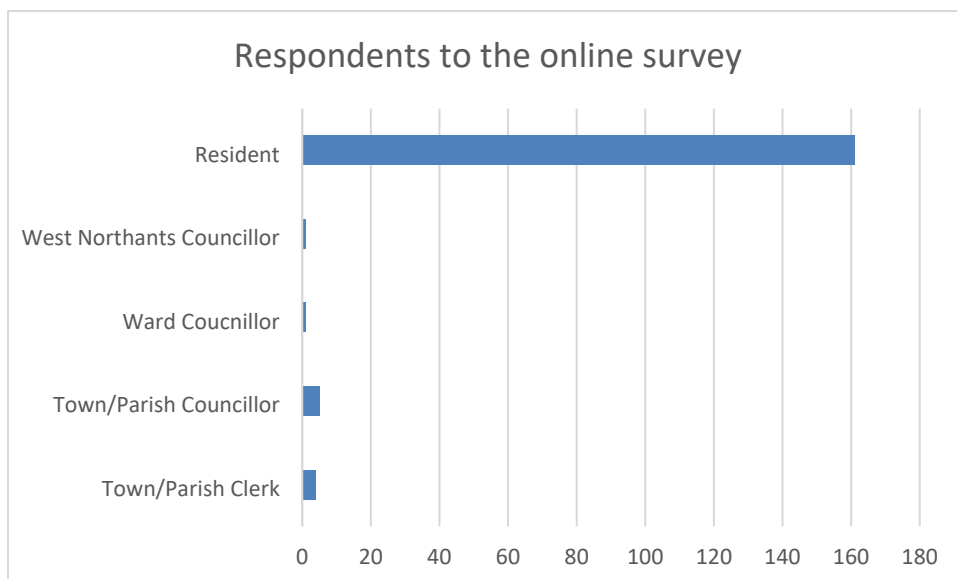
The survey included an opportunity for respondents to provide additional comments as well as submit evidence to support their comments/proposals.

Comments were received from Parish Councils as well as more general comments from residents. This distinction has been made for clarity and ease of read in the comment sections of the report.

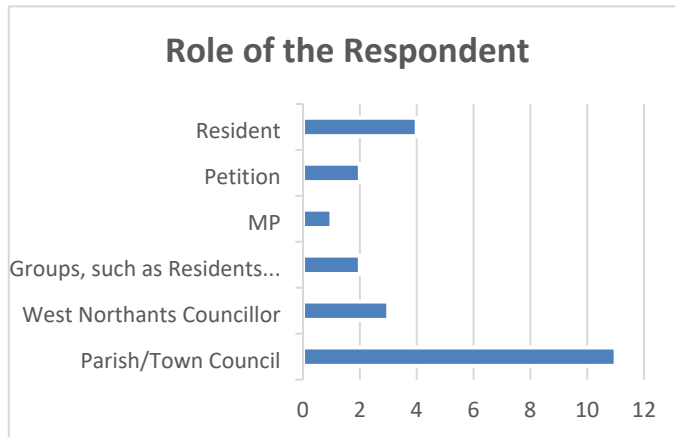
A number of respondents who provided comments also including additional, supporting evidence. This additional evidence is referenced, as applicable, as lettered appendices throughout the report. All appendices are included at the end of the report.

Respondents

There was a total of 172 responses to the survey, although not all questions were responded to. The chart below shows the responses by respondent type:



There were 23 direct email responses with comments. 2 of these were petitions. The chart below shows the responses by email by respondent type.



Comments received are included in full in Appendices A to K.

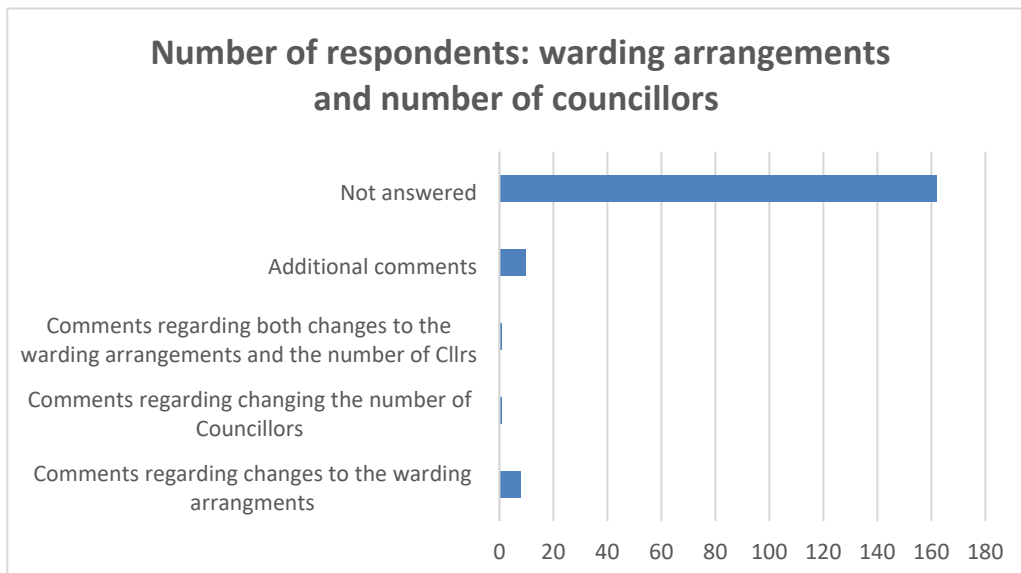
The Appendices do not include the two petitions, but copies are held by Electoral Services.

The consultation asked respondents to detail which Parish or Town Council they were commenting on from the list provided in the survey and to answer questions in relation to this Parish or Town Council.

Consultation results

Do you have any comments about the warding arrangements and number of councillors

There were 20 responses to this question.



Comments made are detailed in **Table A** below.

Table A

Comments from respondents to this question from the online survey	
Duston Parish Council:	<p>The warding arrangements and number of councillors should stay the same. Not sure councillors do anything presently. I wanted to comment on Duston, not Northampton.</p>
East Hunsbury:	<p>East Hunsbury's not even on the map!</p>
Far Cotton and Delapre:	<p>Abolish it. It is not necessary and a waste of money. The ward should not be moved. It is an integral part of Northampton. It's unclear what the community council is there to do. Having a second local layer only seems to add confusion as to whether it's WNC or the community council who are responsible for an issue. We have 12 councillors, none of whom can be contacted directly – everything is done via the clerk, so there is no clue as to what they provide for us.</p>
Northampton Town Council	<p>I'm of the view that the town council should be extended to take in other parishes in the old borough. All these small parish councils have scant money and impact and seem to be a bit of a waste of public money. No idea as map doesn't show number of councillors. Also, can't even read Road names. Is Abington and Phippsville really one ward? It's huge. Get rid of Northampton Council. it's purely ceremonial and a cash cow for the associated councillors who are mostly "double hatters". It serves no purpose and is a waste of taxpayer money. I have lived in Moulton Leys for 45 years and would not be happy joining Moulton. When we first moved here it was made very clear from Moulton Parish Council that we were not welcome into the village, and they would not be accepted and our children into the schools in the village. With this attitude why would we want to be joined to them and what has changed that they now want us? Also, the tax to the Parish Council is far higher than that to the Town Council and feel that there would be no benefit to the area for paying the extra money. Also, the tax to the Parish Council is far higher than that to the Town Council and feel that there would be no benefit to the area for paying the extra money.</p>

Moulton Leys should move into Moulton Parish Council area, also Northampton Town Council is too big and does nothing for people outside the town centre.

I am unhappy about the proposal to move Moulton Leys into the parish of Moulton, there appears to be no benefit in this move just a cost to all the residents.

I understand that Headlands Parish Ward will have three councillors. It is a large ward and could be better served by being divided into three wards each with one councillor.

The outer boundary would be the same to coincide with the WNC Headlands Ward.

Each councillor would be responsible for one area which, hopefully, they would get to know well. To avoid confusion, 'Headlands' would not be used for a Parish Ward but would be replaced with three other names. Familiar names such as Westone, Boothville, Lakeview and Eastfield could be used but also 'new' names such as Manfield, Broadmead and Bush Hill.

The Town Council does not support the proposal to move Moulton Leys to Moulton Parish Council area. The Town Council has conducted its own consultation of residents of Moulton Leys, greater detail of which has been emailed to the consultation email address.

In summary the survey found that the vast majority of respondents from Moulton Leys did not want the boundary to change, identified themselves as Northampton residents and accessed Northampton services. This response should be read in conjunction with the detailed response we have submitted separately via email.

Moulton Leys should remain in Northampton.

I disagree with the suggestion that Moulton Leys be joined with Moulton Parish Council. I have been the ward councillor for Moulton Leys for over 10 years and never in this time has anyone suggested moving the ward from the Northampton council area to Moulton Parish. First of all the ancient and historic boundary of Northampton isn't Boughton/ Moulton Lane it's set back and from the Lane and divides Northampton North parliamentary constituency with Daventry parliamentary constituency. If these changes are made Moulton Parish will cover two parliamentary constituencies in high to me doesn't make sense. Secondly and more concerning is that Moulton Parish council tax is much higher than Moulton Leys (Northampton) and residents will be at a financial loss if these changes happen. As the ward councillor for both West Northamptonshire Council and Northampton Town Council I must object to this. The facilities used by the residents of Moulton Leys are in Northampton not Moulton Village - Doctors Dentists Supermarkets etc. I have spoken to a number of people over the past couple of months and received numerous emails about this change and none supporting it. Northampton Town Council has carried out its own survey as well as a petition by the Moulton Leys Residents Association asking for the boundary to remain the same. If the boundary commission feel that they must alter the boundary then a referendum MUST be held so everyone in Moulton Leys can decide their future.

The proposal to move Moulton Leys to be under Moulton Parish Council is being proposed without any proper consultation with the affected residents. Not everyone is on 'social media'. We should have been notified by letter. Have no details of the costs involved and I understand that we will pay a greater Council tax as Moulton Parish tax is higher than Northampton town tax. Not having been given this info in a proper consultation I do not know if this is correct. I have happily lived in Moulton Leys for 40+ years and object most strongly to this.

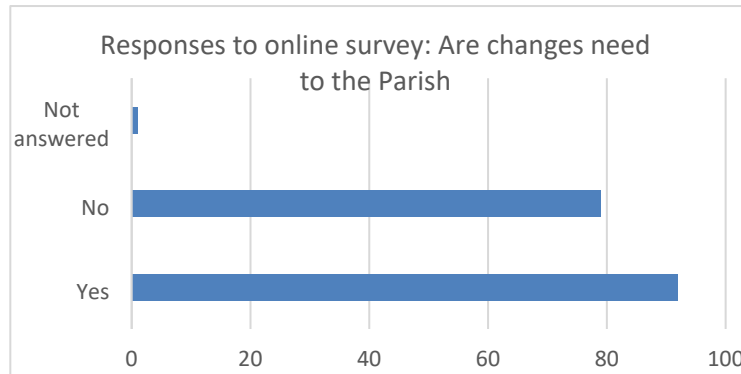
change without proper consultation. Is it a way of Moulton Parish Council getting more money at our expense? Please keep the status quo.

West Hunsbury PC

The Council met in December to discuss the consultation, as a group we are happy with the current boundaries, however as the number of residents on the register is now over 2,000, we would like to increase the number of councillors from 8 to 9.

Do you think changes are needed to the arrangements for this parish? - Are changes needed to this parish?

There were 171 responses to this question who answered yes or no. 92 (54%) respondents answered yes with 79 (46%) stating no.



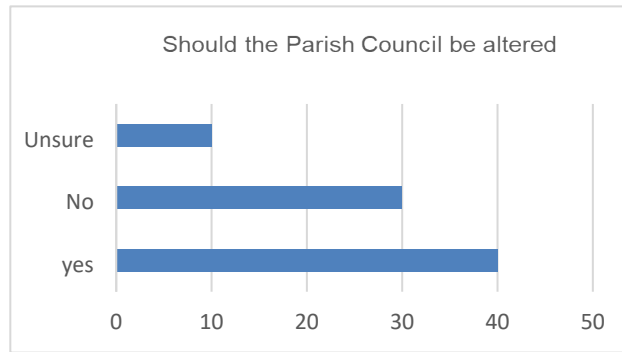
Comments made by the respondents are detailed in **Table B** below.

Table B

Comments
Parish Councils
Yes
Blisworth, Brackley (2) Culworth, Daventry (3), Dodford Duston (2), East Hunsbury, Far Cotton and Delapre (2) Hackleton, Helmdon, Holcot, Kingsthorpe (3) Little Houghton, Moulton (33), Naseby, Northampton (11) Pitsford (2), Preston Capes, Silverstone (9), Tiffield (3), Towcester (7) Upton, West Hunsbury, Wootton (3)
No
Brackley, Braunston (3), Cold Higham, Daventry (5), Duston (3) East Hunsbury, Far Cotton and Delapre (2), Farthinghoe, Flore, Hardingstone (2) Holcot (2), Kingsthorpe(2) Middleton Cheney, Moulton (35), Northampton (7), Overstone, Roade (3) Silverstone (3) Stoke Bruene, Towcester (3) West Hunsbury

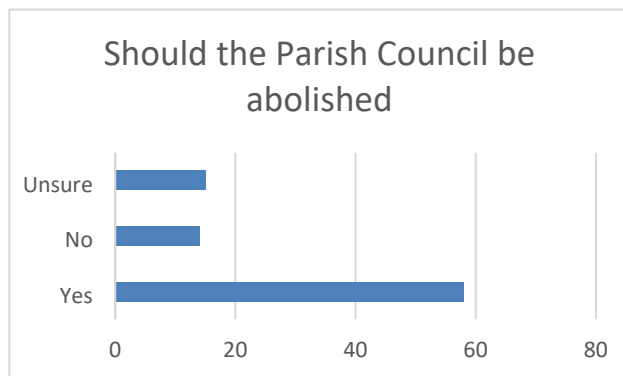
Do you feel that any existing parish area should be altered?

There were 80 responses to this question from the online consultation survey. Overall, 40 respondents (50%) of respondents said they felt that any existing parish areas should be altered. 30 (37.5%) respondents felt they should not be.



Do you feel that any existing parish area should be abolished?

There were 87 responses to this question from the online consultation survey. Overall, 58 respondents (66.66%) of respondents said they felt that any existing parish areas should not be abolished.



Comments

Respondents that said they felt there should be changes to existing parished areas or felt that they should be abolished were asked to provide further details. Not all respondents answered this question. Comments are detailed in **Table C**.

Table C

Comments
<p>Blisworth -Maintain the independence of Blisworth as a village and prevent any expansion commercial or housing which might cause it to merge or join with surrounding settlements and minimise traffic problems.</p> <p>Daventry - The Towns growth has led to there being no space left within the parish to extend or make a new cemetery; the existing one being nearly full. More home = more people= more deaths.</p> <p>Daventry Town Council responded to the previous boundary review for Daventry District and by working with the former Daventry District Council submitted a request for the parish boundary to be extended to include new and proposed development. These changes were approved, and Daventry Town Council is happy with the current parish boundary.</p> <p>Duston -I think that the St Crispins development should be included in the Duston parish and not the Upton parish, to me this makes far more sense as it IS part of Duston, not Upton, it is separated from Upton by the A45.</p> <p>Follow traditional boundaries. Parishes & Town Councils should not be Warded. This would take party politics out of the way that they are run, thus enabling Councillors and Staff alike to focus on the needs of the community that they serve.</p> <p>Far Cotton and Delapre - The council is not necessary and costly.</p> <p>We don't need a second tier of local authority. The whole point of unitary authorities is that there is a single body responsible for all local issues. Having a second tier just adds confusion and delay.</p> <p>Hackleton Parish Council - Hackleton Parish Council supports the recommendation to move Hackleton Urban Ward into Wootton Parish. It would also like to future-proof these changes by including the development land as shown outlined red https://www.hackletonparishcouncil.gov.uk/uploads/wootton-location-plan-487806-01-red-line.pdf?v=1702569678 in the boundary change. This will mean that residents in new properties on the development land do not end up in the same situation as residents on St George's Fields and our part of Wootton where they are within Hackleton Parish but identify with and use all amenities at Wootton which they can reach on foot. There is no easy access from these developments to Hackleton or the other villages that we serve.</p> <p>We support this boundary move on the understanding that the remaining Hackleton Ward (Hackleton Parish) be increased to eleven councillors (we currently have three councillors living in Hackleton, three in Horton and five in Piddington) so to ensure that the views of all residents in all areas of the rural parish are represented and to allow us to continue to reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. This will protect our ability to support our residents, enable continuation and further expansion of services and take on any potential additional services that are devolved to the parishes in the future from West Northants Council.</p>

Boughton - Boughton sees itself as a rural community as opposed to Kingsthorpe which is urban, forcing the two together. I believe that this would cause fundamental conflict on a council including the two areas.

I believe it should be explored as to whether the Buckton Fields estate should move from the Boughton Parish to Kingsthorpe Parish. As this estate is directly connected to Whitehills and Spring Park, the community connections are very strong, and use of services are in Kingsthorpe.

It is likely that residents could be better served by being part of the Kingsthorpe Parish, as their interests are much more likely to be aligned with that of the Kingsthorpe area, rather than Boughton.

Extending the boundaries will reflect the views of local people which are usually and mostly ignored.

Moulton Leys For practical purposes, Moulton Leys 'belongs' to Moulton, and it would seem to make sense to regularise that position.

Move the Northampton boundary back to where it was prior to the Moulton Leys and Cottingham Drive developments and place these residential areas back within the Moulton parish / Daventry area. Although most residents do not have employment within Moulton a considerable number do appear to use the facilities within the village, especially those of a more mature age. Also, a good percentage of the younger members of the community do attend the village schools. The Moulton Parish Council are far more familiar with the area and as individuals are probably better known to most residents.

The existing arrangements are fine. Why change it?

Why are the boundaries being changed there is no benefit to the people affected only additional cost?

The new boundary should include the estates north of Moulton Way and also the Thorpeville 'odds' by Round Spinney as well as the new developments west of the Moulton A43 bypass (currently in Overstone parish). This would resolve anomalies that have developed as Moulton has expanded and bring together the village under a single identity that reflects the reality of residents' lives that are centred on village amenities and culture.

Moulton Leys should form part of the existing Moulton Parish. They currently benefit and use all of our existing facilities therefore should be a more inclusive and create a one team approach to this great village. This would enable more investment and openings for an even better invested village.

Adding significantly more residents to the Moulton Parish will overload an already oversubscribed doctors surgery while at the same time costing the residents of Moulton Leys considerably more in council tax.

Only a part of moulton community when it suits them.

It is discriminatory having parish and with extra cost to the villagers. Overstone should pick up all houses that side and sywell.

Moulton and leys could be one village but not at expense of the leys being charged vastly increases council tax.

Moving the boundary does not benefit Moulton Leys at all, we are not and never been classed as the village. The money the parish take does not benefit any of the people in the area, they just expect people to be able to afford to pay expensive parish council fees without any noticeable benefit.

Moulton Leys should remain as Northampton, and not form part of Moulton Parish. This proposed change of boundary has no benefit for the residents of Moulton Leys. This will have a negative impact on the Moulton Leys residents, the local area and the local economy. There will be a reduction in services and an increase in Council Tax, this is just another way of taking money without consent. With the current cost of living crisis, it is disgraceful to take more money away from people without providing any benefit whatsoever.

Moulton Leys has never been regarded as part of Moulton so the only reason they want is now to make more money for no return A small triangular area of Clipston Parish lies on the south side of the A14, cut off from the rest of the parish. It would make sense for this area to be transferred to Naseby Parish. In recent years this small area received permission for a barn for horticultural use and vegetable /fruit growing (DA/2018/113) but a moto cross site was constructed. A retrospective moto cross application was refused (DA/2019/1042). The moto cross site was removed, and the site reinstated, and the completed barn is now in use

Northampton Town Council - Waste of taxpayer money. Ceremonial mayors are outdated. The whole organisation is a waste of taxpayer money.

Waste of taxpayer money. Ceremonial mayor's are out dated. The whole organisation is a waste of taxpayer money.

The geography and identity of NTC is a nonsense given that areas like Duston, Kingsthorpe etc are Northampton. More parishes should be created in Northampton, NTC abolished, and a recognisable Northampton area formally acknowledged by WNC. Also, NTC does nothing for residents.

Northampton should still include Moulton leys.

Moulton Moulton Grange is geographically closer to Pitsford Village and the council believe that residents would be better represented and served by Pitsford Parish Council. We also consider that the number of councillors, 9 at present, is too high. The village would be as well served by just 7 councillors, and it would be more achievable to fill all the council vacancies.

The Parish Council is an expensive waste of time and money.

Silverstone - I would propose that the parishes of Whittlebury and Silverstone should be joined as they have many similarities in terms of development, economics, regional proximity, Silverstone Circuit, schooling, road usage and will shortly be part of the same political ward. Whittlebury currently struggles to fulfil some Parish Council functions and would benefit from the resources of being joined to Silverstone. In order for that to function efficiently a percentage representation to Silverstone PC would need to be in place with a larger PC to enable more man hours.

Possibly merge Silverstone with Whittlebury

Merge Whittlebury and Silverstone

Silverstone parish is unique in the county having the world renown race circuit within its boundaries, but the circuit also impacts on Whittlebury too; it would make sense for the 2 parishes to combine so that a joint overview can be achieved. Whilst the circuit provides employment, there should be restraints on the lighting of the buildings both within the track and adjacent to it - the light pollution emitted from the area is unacceptable, ruins the night sky, has a detrimental environmental impact on nocturnal wildlife in Whittlewood Forest and makes the claims from both to be carbon neutral, laughable. A stronger parish council drawn from both

Whittlebury & Silverstone might have a louder voice that WNC might take notice of.

Silverstone should be combined with Whittlebury parish council. We also need to mix up the parishes our County Councillors represent. The incumbent councillor for Silverstone is not fit for office.

Caldecote and Tiffield - Include Caldecote within Tiffield as proposed.

Assigning Caldecote to the Tiffield much more reflects the identity of the village of Caldecote due to Tiffields own village identity.

Personally, I think there is a greater awareness in Tiffield of Caldecote's interests and local issues and concerns than there currently is with the councillors of the Towcester Parish. Due to commonalities the two villages have the change would provide a more effective local governance than currently in place.

Caldecote appears to sit more comfortably within Tiffield rather than as an outlier of Towcester.

Tiffield boundary could extend to Caldecote and down to the A5.

I believe that Caldecote should be moved under the control of Tiffield Parish Council, for the following reasons:

1. Caldecote has far more in common with Tiffield - both are small rural communities close to but not within a town setting. Residents of Caldecote tend to 'gravitate' to Tiffield where there are local services such as a good primary school, pub, play facilities, various communities' groups and clubs, and a strong local community spirit
 2. Towcester appears disinterested in Caldecote - with the rapid expansion of Towcester, the Town Council appears to devote its attention to the new demands of a growing community. We felt badly let down indeed when consultation with Caldecote was completely overlooked by the Town Council (and the then SNDC) during the development of the Local Plan - despite enormous repercussions for Caldecote. Even now the Town Council has been very reluctant to represent Caldecote's strong opposition to the proposed AL1 warehouse development. Other villages, notably Tiffield, have been much more vociferous in their opposition and have fought Caldecote's corner far better.
 3. Tiffield appears to have a far better track record in looking after its local facilities than seems to be the case with Towcester Town Council. We have no street lighting, only a very short section of footpath, verges and the road are in a deplorable state. Tiffield appears to care much more about its village, possibly because they have direct control over it (through their Parish Council).
- These comments relate to Towcester Town Council, not to any individual Town Councillor who in some cases have been supportive at a personal level.

I feel the identities and interests of the community of Caldecote will be better served by belonging within the Tiffield boundary. I feel Towcester does not recognise we exist within the Towcester boundary. My reasons for feeling this way are reflected by the fact that Caldecote was not informed of the Local Plan and a major commercial development on our doorstep came to our notice almost by accident. This boundary proposal also came to my attention by accident rather than being notified by Towcester Town Council. In addition, I feel we have more in common with another village rather than the town of Towcester and we are similar in scale to Tiffield whereas we are forgotten in the eyes of Towcester.

Tiffield boundary could extend to Caldecote and down to the A5.

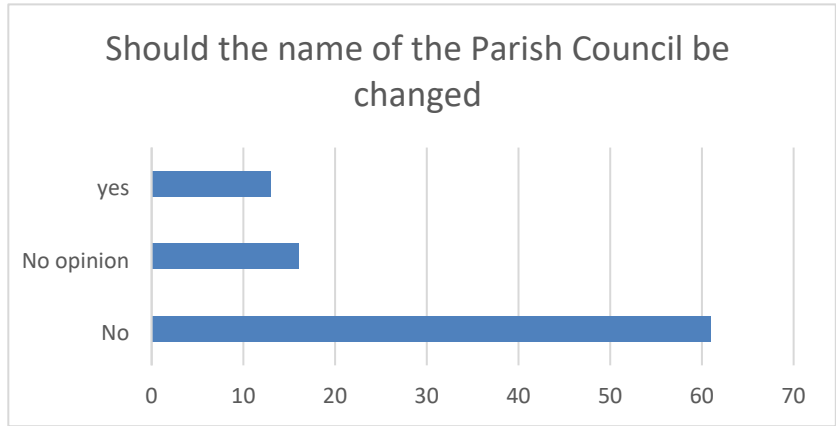
Caldecote's interests, as a rural farming hamlet, align very much more closely with Tiffield which shares similar characteristics, rather than the expanding urban character of Towcester. Caldecote has historically been marginalised by Towcester because of both geography, with the A43 dividing the area and due to a previous lack of representation. With large employment allocation developments at AL1 and AL3 these will further physically divide Caldecote from Towcester

Wootton Parish Council The parish boundary needs to be extended to incorporate the community served by Wootton Parish Council. Extend to Preston Deanery Road. This will take into account the proposed Gallagher homes development. Without extending the new development would be in the same situation as St Georges Field is in now.

Pt not really wanted.

Do you feel that the name of the Parish Council should be changed?

There were 90 responses to this question from the online consultation survey. Overall, 61 respondents (67.77%) of respondents said they felt the name of the Parish Council should not be changed.



Comments

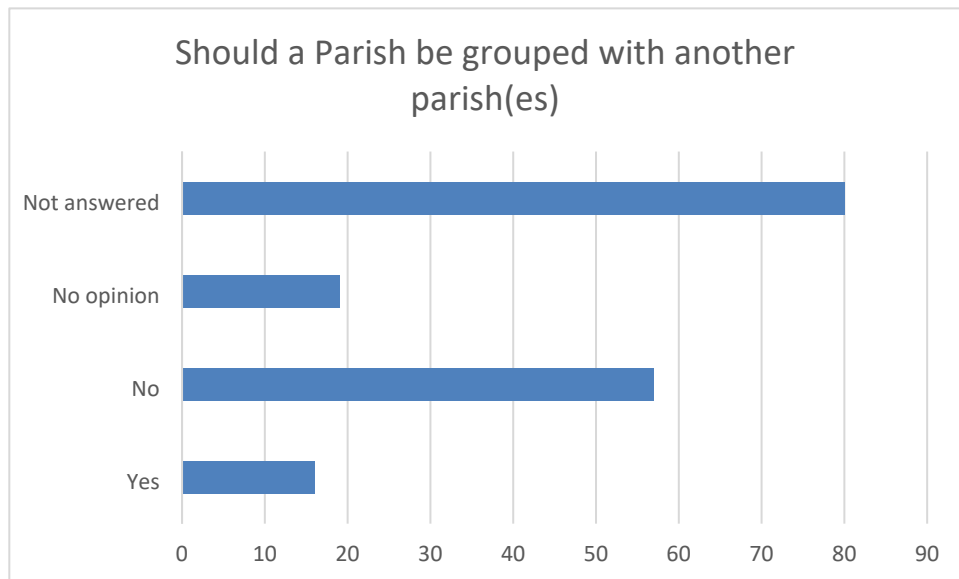
Respondents who suggested the Parish Council should be renamed was asked to suggest a name, not all respondents made a suggestion. Details of the suggestions are provided in **Table D**.

Table D

Comments
It should be Duston, and treated separately from Northampton
The Parish of Kingsthorpe & Boughton
Doesn't need one, abolish it
Silverstone and Whittlebury Parish
Silverbury Parish
Silverbury pc
Silverstone & Whittlebury Parish Council
Tiffield & Caldecote
Tiffield and Caldecote
It would become part of Tiffield, perhaps Tiffield and Caldecote PC
Tiffield and Caldecote
St Crispin and Upton
Wootton....

Do you feel that any parish should be grouped with another parish or parishes?

There were 92 responses to this question from the online consultation survey. Overall, 16 respondents (17%) of respondents said they felt the a parish should be grouped with another parish(es) and 57 respondents (62%) felt they should not be.



Comments

Respondents who felt that Parish(es) should be grouped were asked to name which one, not all respondents made a suggestion. Details of the suggestions are provided in **Table E**. Respondents who said no, were asked to give their reasons and details are contained in **Table F**. Not all respondents provided comments.

Table E

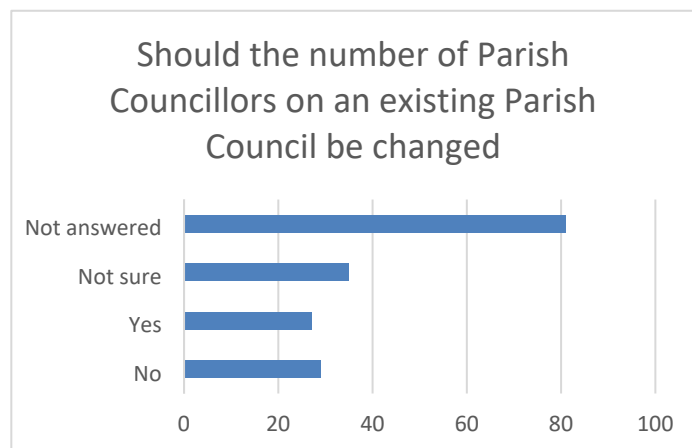
Comments
Caldecote should come under Tiffield
Cottesbrooke should be grouped with Creaton
East and West Hunsbury
Hardingston
Overstone
Silverstone with Whittlebury
Tiffield
Tiffield and Caldecote
The grouping should be made by the relevant Parishes and the groupings may be different for different subjects
West Northants Council should be grouped with North Northants Council
Whittlebury

Table F

Comments
A small boundary change is proposed to better served residents
Blisworth has been an independent settlement for 1000 years
Each parish must have the right to manage itself. Combined parishes may have different views.
Hackleton Parish already incorporates Hackleton, Horton, Piddington & Preston Deanery which interdependent villages working as one community
I do not wish to comment on an area I do not reside in (Kingsthorpe and Boughton)
Moulton (especially with the proposed absorption of Moulton Leys) is a sensible discrete settlement
It will be a relatively large parish with the new additions (Moulton)
Things are fine as they are. (Moulton)
It defines an area, especially a boundary of the local church (Moulton)
Change always comes at the cost to taxpayers
Moulton is a village already ruined by massive thoughtless development on flood land
There is no benefit to the residents in doing this. The resulting council tax increase will be damaging. (Moulton)
It's ok as it is (Moulton)
I see no benefit to moving the boundary. (Moulton)
Naseby has previously rejected a proposal to absorb Cottesbrooke Parish meeting - the centres of population are too distant and there are few links between the villages
I see no benefit to the proposed changes (Northampton)
The Town Council is newly established and it needs time to imbed itself. (Northampton)
A small boundary change is proposed to better serve residents. (Pitsford)
Our PC has enough of a problem 'managing' our Parish without them having to think about a neighbouring Parish! I also believe Councillors should live within the boundaries of the Parish they serve. (Silverstone)
I think enlarging the area covered will dilute the service we get, the majority of people known who they are and know they can contact them when needed. (Silverstone.)
Small communities have very specific needs which are best dealt with by their own Parish Council. If amalgamated into a larger parish council with numerous communities, they will not receive the same level of service (Tiffield)
Wootton will be large enough with the proposed new developments.

Should the number of councillors on an existing parish council be changed? -

There were 91 responses to this question from the online consultation survey. Overall, 27 respondents (29% of respondents) said they felt the number of Councillors on an existing Parish Council should be changed. 29 respondents (32%) felt they should not be.



Comments

Respondents who felt that Parish Councillors on an existing Parish Council should be changed were asked to state what the proposed number should be and the reason for this. . Details of the suggestions are provided in **Table G**. Respondents who said no, were asked to give their reasons and details are contained in **Table H**. Not all respondents provided comments.

Table G

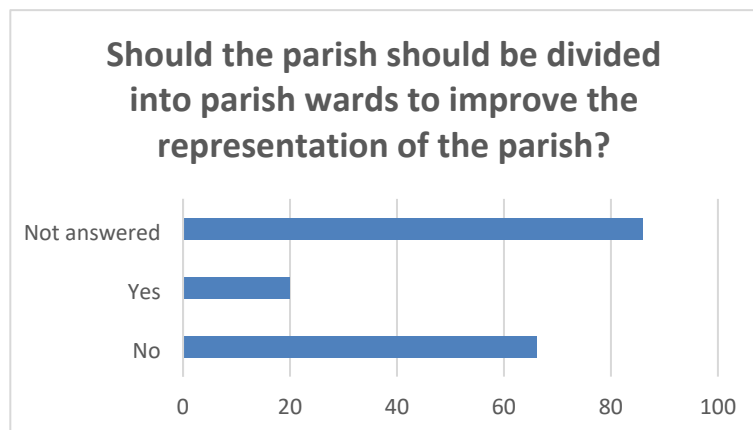
Comments	
Daventry Town Council	- 15, for voting purposes Maybe increased to reflex the increasing population in the parish over the next 10 years or so.
Duston Parish Council	Currently 12, more than enough - "too many cooks spoil the broth"
Hackleton Parish Council	Once the new urban ward is stripped out then the remaining Hackleton Ward should increase to 11 councillors as per the current Hackleton Parish Council where we currently have 3 councillors living in Horton, 5 councillors living in Piddington and 3 councillors living in Hackleton. This ensures that all villages within the parish have full and proper representation at parish council level. This will also protect our ability to support our residents, enable continuation and further expansion of services and take on any potential additional services that are devolved to the parishes in the future from West Northants Council.
Helmdon Parish Council	7
Kingsthorpe	Just 1 and keep Sam Rumens as you never hear or see anything of the other 2 so don't waste funds on them and give it all to Sam as he gas more than proved himself since election
Moulton	More diverse councillors An additional 3 places would allow for the new areas to add councillors to the existing council
Northampton	There should be no parish at all Zero. Ceremonial only, no powers... Unsure. Currently the Town Council has 25 cllrs for 130,000 residents. There is a view that this should be increased in the most popular of wards to allow for greater representation and ease the burden on cllrs.
Pitsford	Proposed 7 councillors. We also consider that the number of councillors, 9 at present, is too high given the population of the area. The village would be as well served by just 7 councillors and it would be more achievable to fill all the council vacancies.
Silverstone	15 - if there are any 'strong characters' on the PC, the more people serving, the less likely they are to be able to influence too many of them, thereby getting their own way 15. This would be to ensure enough people available to cover all roles and subcommittees and allow for absence The amount of work covered in my opinion needs more people not less. More people can over more topic and issues for the village. Less the village won't have the same service they currently give. 15. There are many roles and sub committees to be filled and the work would be more evenly distributed if there were more councillors The number should be reflective of the population of the parish No more than 9 on a combined council. Needs to be an odd number so no vote can be a draw
Tiffield	one extra to cover Caldecote ie 10
West Hunsbury	9, currently we have 8 and the number of electors means we can have more, this will ensure the chairman is not relied on for the casting vote currently we have 8 and the number of electors means we can have more, this will ensure the chairman is not relied on for the casting vote

Table H

Comments	
Blisworth	Works well at present
Dodford	There is no need to over manage a parish.
Duston	Currently 12, more than enough - "too many cooks spoil the broth" (respondent provided this comment for "yes" too
Moulton	Things are fine as they are. Seems to work well as it is
Naseby	Naseby has consistent difficulty filling all of existing Councillor seats.
Northampton	If it is not broken why change it.
Tiffield	We have 9 Councillors at present and with illness, holidays, work or family commitments we struggle to get them to come along to every meeting. If we had a reduction in numbers, there is always a danger that we would not be quorate at every meeting
Wootton	Wootton is 12. It is hard to fill the existing places.

Do you consider the parish should be divided into parish wards to improve the representation of the parish?

There were 86 responses to this question from the online consultation survey. Overall, 20 respondents (23% of respondents said they felt the parish should be divided into parish wards to improve the representation of the parish . 66 respondents (77%) felt they should not be.



Comments

Respondents who felt that the parish should/should not be divided into parish wards to improve the representation of the parish were asked to give their reasons. Comments are detailed in **Table I**. Not all respondents provided comments.

Table I

Comments	
Blisworth	Too small
Daventry	<p>There are already wards within the Town. These would need to be increased to reflex the growth of the town</p> <p>Following the approval of the Local Government Boundary Review for WNC warding arrangements, it was noted that the wards within Daventry Town had been reduced from four to three, with one of the wards having 10 representatives and two just 3 representatives each. Members of Daventry Town Council feel this will create a problem for residents when voting as they are likely to choose representatives at the top of ballot papers and when seeking ward representatives, applicants may wish to focus on a smaller area, to give better representation.</p>
Dodford	Our parish isn't big enough.
Duston	<p>This may work well as there are many different communities within the parish that may benefit from ward representation.</p> <p>Warding a Parish or Town Council will not improve representation but will add to party political bitchiness and politicking making it ungovernable.</p>
Far Cotton & Delapre	If we have to have the council, then at least we'd know which councillors represent which parts
Holcot	Have no idea about the parish
Kingsthorpe	<p>Doing this increases the number of councillors in turn costs and adds more personal agendas to local government</p> <p>Its ok as it is</p>
Moulton	<p>more local opinions and benefits to be gained hopefully</p> <p>Why complicate things</p> <p>Not a major issue, but would help keep Moulton Leys' identity</p> <p>Better to have a single voice for Moulton rather than extending the current divide into the future (2 respondents made this comment)</p> <p>No opinion</p> <p>Outdated</p> <p>There should be no parish</p> <p>There is no benefit to the residents in doing this.</p> <p>There is no benefit to the residents in doing this.</p> <p>Sadly, the parish is only concerned about the centre of the village not the wider area.</p> <p>The size and character of the parish does not justify divisions</p>
Northampton	<p>The Headlands Parish Ward should be divided into three smaller wards.</p> <p>Already in wards</p>
Silverstone	<p>Our own Parish is too small and restricting it to wards might impact on who volunteers</p> <p>If this means aligning with the political wards, then yes</p> <p>Why Silverstone is a village start sectioning it off can create problems for residents and the councillors.</p> <p>It causes division, we need unification</p> <p>We have enough representation it's the quality of the representation that is the issue.</p>

Tiffield	We serve a small rural community and there is no need to divide it down any further It is not large enough
Towcester	With the size of the Parish it would seem over the top to decide it into wards Probably not necessary but that could be considered So that both villages feel represented
Wootton	It would not be a large enough parish to warrant this suggestion No think Wootton is so large it should be its own town with Hackleton and Hardingstone included. The present council has proved it can cope.

Additional comments provided by respondents to support their submission

Table J

Comments

I think more funding and focus should be on Brackley. Currently the funding and focus are very much on the north of the county. Which is extremely unfair, bearing in mind that we have to contend with HS2, which is destroying much of the area.

Parish should be allowed to continue meeting and sharing their activities with residents online. (Helmdon)

Why is it last year and I am assuming this year will be the same, there was an increase of 10% on council tax from the parish when there have been no visible improvements and all other council tax increase were at 5% (Holcot)

I believe the move to Parish councils has placed lots of responsibility for urban areas on councillors with ulterior motives. I do not believe that councillors that sit on West Northamptonshire Council should then be able to sit on Parish councils. (Holcot)

The local councils have lost their influence and the W Northants council has discounted their opinions which reflect the views of the local people to pursue their own agendas, One of the disgraces of the W Northants council is that it does not regard the importance of road traffic in and around Moulton village. (Moulton)

We have a petition signed by hundreds of Moulton Leys residence against our move under the Moulton Ward. We wish to remain under the Ward of Northampton Town Council.

Who benefits from this ? No one all it does is add additional cost . We would like to stay as Northampton.

I have signed a a petition to remain under Northampton Town Council governance, I do not wish to belong to Moulton Parish Council.

I do not wish to be under Moulton parish council.

This change has been put in place without sufficient (or indeed any) consultation of the affected residents and is politically motivated rather than being for the benefit of either the residents of Moulton Leys or of Moulton Parish.

Moulton parish council is a complete joke. I have no desire to have any dealings with them and actually moved out of the village because of how poorly this council is run

Wish to remain under the town councils (Moulton)

I believe that all the people in moulton leys need an unbiased information sheet, giving all relevant info regarding all aspects. There are many people, especially the elder generation, who arent on the internet

Why weren't the residents that the changes would affect been properly advised of the proposal?

It looks like it's been kept quiet so it can be swept through. More consultation is needed and the reasoning behind this new boundary proposal explained. Also who has control over future council tax rises and deciding the percentage. I believe Moulton Parish Council upped theirs last year by a huge 13% ? The pros and cons need explaining (Moulton)

Leave us with Northampton council we don't want to be part of the parish

There is a petition against the boundary change and residents should be listened to as nobody wants this change.

I do not, in any way, support this proposed change. There is a current petition opposing this change. Nobody in Moulton Leys welcomes this change.

Have lived in moulton leys for a year now and the service we have received is good so no need to change

I don't foresee any benefits of moving the parish boundary only financially for the parish. Most people outside the parish don't use the facilities in the village including doctors, shops, church and public houses. Village is a nightmare to drive and park as it was not built to have the volume of houses.

I have lives in Moulton Leys for 30 years and Moulton Parish Council have never done anything to help or recognise us. They have always seen us as an add on to their village and not part of it so I don't see why they should get us now that they want more income

The SUE has radically altered Moulton and Overstone and both parishes should be merged to provide more efficient and effective service. Moulton Leys should also be included. I live in Moulton and feel the parish has placed ever increasing costs on ratepayers for many years.

Moulton parish council have never indicated they wanted moulton leys to be part of the parish so I have reservation about motive as we have not had any communication from parish councillors

The whole concept of moving Moulton Leys from the Borough to Moulton is a totally unnecessary cost with no real benefit to residents. You will spend council tax payers money changing road signs and bin days, money better spent on repairing the roads. Someone needs a reality check here.

Large petition locally for Moulton Leys to remain in Northampton. Lack of interest from Moulton parish council

We have always been part of Northampton and see no reason to change. No reasons have been given and we have not received any communication from Moulton Parish Council. General opinion is that this boundary change us being done by stealth.

Parish councillors should not be WNC councillors and visa versa.

County councillors should not sit on parish councils so as to prevent conflicts of interest. Former & current WNC councillors should declare their previous/current position on SNC/WNC when submitting or commenting on contentious issues such as planning, even if in a personal capacity.

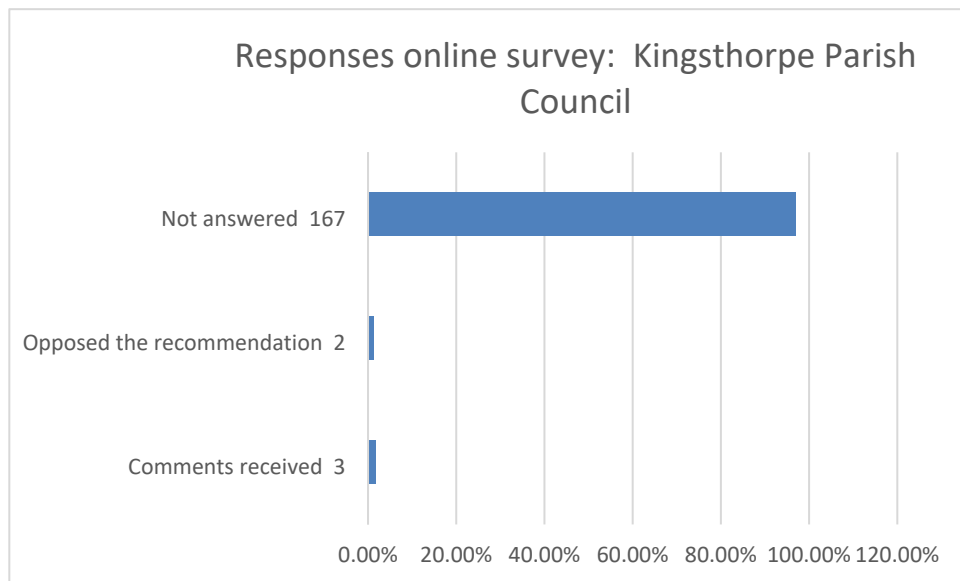
Members register publishing should be mandatory at each meeting and on the council website.
 Councillors should have responsibility for residential areas within the parish as well as a portfolio.
 What happens if not enough people want to be parish councillors?
 It is important that the views of all residents are considered and it is my hope that additional consultation will take place to fully take into account the views of all residents.
 West Hunsbury is a distinct area and should be kept as such, we would not support any mergers or consolidation into other parishes
 Wootton has different elected parish councillors but nothing changes as the unelected Tina Chartress rules the parish so what she decides and her agenda goes. Hoping merging other parishes will fix that problem. I do feel Wootton, Hardingstone and Hackleton all have the same agenda and issues, floods, development, village life and growth. Would really benefit all to operate together rather than one parish robbing from the other or developing on the boundary of another. Need more doctors and secondary schools and dentists which could be achieve if the 3 were a town.

A precis of responses from the online survey in relation to the individually named Parish Councils below:

Adstone Parish Council

No further responses were received to the suggestion that its potential dissolution could take place. If the Parish Meeting were to be dissolved, the area would be incorporated into a suitable neighbouring parish

Boughton Parish Council and Kingsthorpe Parish Council



Three comments were received in relation to the proposal to move the small Dixon Road parish ward from Boughton to Kingsthorpe to realign the parish and ward boundaries. Just two respondents to the online survey opposed the recommendation.

Comments

This becomes a very large and unwieldy ward with more councillors, that is both rural and urban causing conflicting needs and requirements. Including high levels of deprivation and high levels of wealth. I am not sure this makes for a ward that can be fairly representative of all its residents and their needs. Moving the boundary ensures that the council is likely to be bought under one political party's control and remain under the same party's political control.

Please call it Kingsthorpe & Boughton as nod to the higher population of Kingsthorpe over Boughton area and not bowing to the wealthy in Boughton village

I do not support this . Kingsthorpe Parish is huge already. The bigger the area the harder it is to represent the residents

Braunston Parish Council

Two respondents commented on the number of Councillors sitting on Braunston Parish Council, and both supported the current number of Parish Councillors.

Comments

The current number of councillors seems about right considering the parish population and the fact that they are all volunteers.

The number appears to be correct. Each councillor has an area of responsibility within the village and to lower the number would require each councillor to take on additional responsibility. It could be argued that in a growing village, with more new build expected, a greater number of councillors would be appropriate. However there is difficulty in recruiting councillors for the twelve places which currently exist.

Daventry Town Council

There were six respondents to the online survey regarding the proposal to change the number of parish councillors to an odd number. the majority supported a change to the number of councillors. Some suggested a reduction, while others suggested an increase. Four incomplete responses were also received, one of which supported of an increase (the other three expressed no view).

Comments

Good idea, if its an extra councillor, this will spread the load a

This makes sense for voting purposes. I would support a reduction from 16 to 15 or 13

I Presume as this specifies an odd number rather than any particular change in representation that this to allow a simple majority vote at council meetings. I have no issue with this proposal provided the change is done on a equitable manner.

Daventry Town Council works well with 16 councilors. What is the reasoning behind making any changes to this number? The Town electorate understand the wards as they are at present. What reason is there for any change in names. The Town is growing and ward boundaries will have to grow but why change names?

Daventry Town Council is supportive of increasing the number of councillors to 17 to reduce the need for the use of casting votes by the Chair, but following research into Town warding arrangements, members could not find a solution to facilitate this and retain logical wards with evenly spread electorate.

No

Dodford and Weedon Bec

There was one response to the online survey that was in support of the proposal that the boundary between Dodford Parish and Weedon Bec parish be moved to align with the new section of the A45 constructed in 2017, from the roundabout on the A5 north of Weedon Bec to the roundabout with Weedon Bec High Street.

Hackleton

The Parish Council supported the proposal to move the area covered by this ward from Hackleton Parish into Wootton Parish. Four incomplete responses were received from the online consultation survey. One suggested the parish boundaries should be left unchanged while the other three expressed no view.

Little Houghton

One response was received, in support of the proposal put forward by Great Houghton Parish Council.

Wootton Parish Council

Three responses were received that made suggestions to: extend the boundary to Hackleton and to merge Wootton, Hackleton and Hardingstone.

Comments
Wootton is very large. Since it split from East Hunsbury parish representation has dropped. No police presence, no investment in the area other than Simpson Manor Memorial Stone (paid for twice apparently) and firework show. There is so much of Hackleton and Hardingstone coming through Wootton it should all be represented as one area or town with the parks and squares being all part of one area. The parish boundary may need to be moved further into Hackleton Parish to incorporate possible planning around Caroline Chisholm School. The map shown does not show the entire boundary change - it's been cut off. The Wootton boundary should be moved out to Preston Deanery Road. This will then take in the proposed Gallagher Homes development.

Hardingstone

It was suggested that the boundaries of Great Houghton Parish Council be altered to incorporate part of Hardingstone Parish to the west and part of Little Houghton to the northeast. The change to the northeast incorporates land containing the parish playing field, purchased in 1972. The Parish Council also seeks to extend its parish boundary to the west in order to incorporate the total area of the proposed development of The Green (LAA1098), incorporating some 800 new homes. Three quarters of which is already within our current parish. This proposal being based on utilising existing natural borders including streams, roads, lanes, footpaths and hedgerows.

However, the proposal to incorporate part of Hardingstone Parish into Great Houghton would conflict with the new warding pattern (Nene Valley Cogenhoe and the Houghtons) set by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

Helmdon Parish Council

Helmdon Parish Council responded to the Stage 1 consultation to advise it did not wish to make a change. Two residents responded suggesting a reduction should be considered. There was a further incomplete response suggested seven parish councillors.

Moulton

The proposal for Moulton generated a significant number of responses (around 69 complete responses and 28 incomplete responses). The responses were mixed. Of those expressing a clear view, a majority indicated they did not support the suggestion while a minority were in favour. Others suggested more information would be required before they could form a view and requested a thorough consultation.

A survey was conducted by Northampton Town Council. The survey found that 31% of respondents identified with Moulton, while 64% identified with Northampton. A further question found that 29% of respondents primarily accessed services in Moulton, while 62% primarily accessed services in Northampton. Further questions sought to assess support for the proposal and found a significant majority of respondents did not support the proposal. The survey generated 137 responses in total. A petition was also submitted via Northampton Town Council.

Little Houghton

One response was received, in support of the proposal put forward by Great Houghton Parish Council.

Holcot Parish Council

There were two responses from the online survey in favour of the proposal that the parish boundary with Sywell be re-aligned with the route of the A43

Comments
It's not Ecton. Sywell/Overstone. But the change would make sense. 1. I had believed that the boundary in question is between Holcot and Sywell (not Ecton) and 2. I support the proposal to align the boundary in question with the A43, and expect the appropriate authority to arrange for the boundary between NNC and WNC to be amended to match.

Overstone Parish Council

The question posed in the survey was "The Council has received a suggestion that the number of councillors should increase from 9 to 15 to reflect the development taking place within the parish. Let us know if you have a view about this suggestion: - Let us know if you have a view about this suggestion"

No responses were received from the online consultation survey to this question

A further question was posed "The Council has received a further suggestion that the boundary between Overstone Parish and Moulton Parish be move to align with Park View and The Avenue in order to take account of new development. Let us know if you have a view about this suggestion: - Let us know if you have a view about this suggestion"

Pitsford

One suggestion to move Moulton Grange from Moulton to Pitsford.

Ravensthorpe

Ravensthorpe was not included within the original term of reference for the review. The Council was contacted by the Clerk to the parish council during the first stage consultation to advise that the Council considered

whether any changes might be required when it met in November 2023. The Council voted unanimously to reduce the number of Parish Councillors from the current 9 (7 for Ravensthorpe ward and 2 for Coton ward) to 8 (7 for Ravensthorpe ward and 1 for Coton ward). The Parish explained that the basis for the reduction is that the number of electors is just 55 for Coton and 496 for Ravensthorpe, totalling 551 electors. The Council understands that 8 Councillors in total is still higher than the recommended number of 7 based on elector numbers but is satisfied that 8 would be a reasonable number for the two wards.

Roade and Stoke Bruene

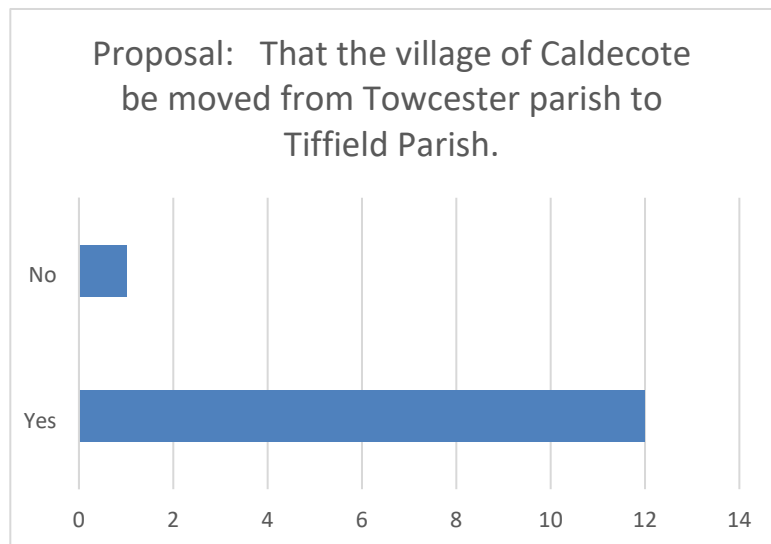
Three responses received (Roade) one in favour, one didn't answer and one questioning why the change should be made. One response was received under Stoke Bruerne which was in favour of the proposal.

Silverstone

Twelve responses were received regarding the proposal to merge parishes of Whittlebury and Silverstone. Five responses in favour.

Tiffield and Towcester

There were thirteen complete responses received in relation to the suggestion that the village of Caldecote be moved from Towcester parish to Tiffield Parish. Three responses were in favour under the heading of Tiffield, while seven responses in favour were submitted under the heading of Towcester. Two responses were opposed to the proposal while the remaining response expressed no view. Of the twelve incomplete responses received, five were in favour and the rest expressed no view.



One comment suggested *“the boundary between Towcester and Tiffield Parish should run along the northern edge of South Northants Local Plan v2 employment allocations AL1 and AL3, so the employment allocations would continue to be within Towcester parish and the land to the North including the village of Caldecote and the surrounding farmland would become part of Tiffield Parish.*

Tiffield Parish Council and Caldecote Parish Council merger

There were four responses from the online consultation survey to the proposal to move Caldecote from Towcester Town Council to Tiffield Parish Council.

Comments

In principle the proposed merger of Tiffield Parish with Caldecote would appear to be a good idea. This is based on the contiguity of the two and the separation of them by the A5 and A45 major trunk roads.

The proposed major industrial/warehousing development would also mostly be incorporated into a single representative body whereas at the moment it appears to be peripheral to Towcester.

Makes sense.

If it means better representation for the residents of Caldecote then it would be a good idea. Up to now the views of Caldecote have been largely ignored with regard to the AL1 employment site which was approved in the Local Plan but is completely inappropriate and far too close to this rural hamlet. Caldecote was not consulted in the lead up to the allocation.

I feel that as a resident of Caldecote I am more aligned with what goes on in Tiffield my children went to Tiffield school and Tiffield is a place where I know many of the residents and have friends in the village. I have no affiliation with Towcester Mill ward and geographically it is quite a long way from Caldecote compared to Towcester. I tend to attend Tiffield Parish council meetings as what is discussed has much more bearing on my life and issues around the Caldecote area than what is discussed in Towcester Town Council.

Agree if Caldecote residents also agree.

Upton Parish Council

One proposal received, change name of Parish to St Crispin and Upton

West Hunsbury Parish Council

Two proposals received to increase number of Councillors from 8 to 9 to reflect population growth.

List of Appendices

- Appendix A Abington Vale
- Appendix B Boughton
- Appendix C Caldecote, Tiffield, Towcester
- Appendix D Daventry Town Council
- Appendix E Hackleton and Wootton
- Appendix F Hardingstone
- Appendix G Helmdon
- Appendix H Moulton and Overstone
- Appendix I Moulton Leys
- Appendix J Northampton Town Council
- Appendix K Thorpe Manderville

Catherine Whitehead
West Northants Council
1 Angel Square
Northampton

Community Governance Review Park Ward

31 January 2024

Democracy Meaning : **government by the people**. especially : rule of the majority. b. : a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections.

Park Ward

We recently submitted a petition of 130 residents views in Weston Favell Village and Abington Vale to explore becoming a Parish once again using the CGR mechanism. Park Ward is currently part of the Northampton Town Council which happened by default when the Northampton Borough Council & Northants County Council was dissolved and all the un-parished areas of Northampton was put together to form the new NTC .The process was quite rushed at the time and not fully thought through.

Park ward have natural forming communities within their current boundary and the new proposed boundary change by the Boundary Commission to incorporate Rushmere road area. But not Standens Barn ward as this is across the dual carriageway and has no natural community co -hesion with the rest of the area and would in fact benefit in staying within the Town Council in its own right with a population of approx 2500 people this would meet the criteria. Billing Aquadrome which is on private land would naturally align with the Billing Parish Council and not Riverside/Park ward.

Park Ward its self has two very active residents associations Bridgewater Residents Association & Weston Favell Residents Association and members from both have signed the petition to EXPLORE the area being Parished once again .Both communities put on regular events such as the Queen Elizabeths Diamond Jubilee , Summer Fetes , Days out, Coffee mornings ,AGMS .

Quiz nights and of course they celebrated King Charles 111 coming to the throne. The area has the Weston Favell Scouts & Brownies organisations located there which serves all the local children very well. Together with playground areas in Bridgewater Drive and award winning Abington Park.The area is served by St Peters church in Weston Favell Village by the Vicar Beverly Hollis which has a strong membership of church goers for the area and has church rooms close by where many community events take place .

Both communities use the Weston Favell allotments in Graspin Lane which is very well attended and is a source of pride for locals and creates much wellbeing in the community as well as vegetables of course

Education

Bridgewater Primary School , Abington Vale School , Northampton Schools for boys

Social Life

Boasting three public houses The Bold Dragoon & The Trumpet in WF and Road to Morocco in Bridgewater Drive, heart of the communities .

Northampton County Lawn Tennis Club in Weston Favell Village

An Aldi supermarket , hairdressers in both WFV & Bridgewater , local shops in both areas including hairdressers/barbers convenience stores.

All the above demonstrate this is a close self sufficient community and would make an ideal Parish once again given the opportunity.

The precept that is raised by the Town Council on their behalf and spent accordingly is being questionable as virtually nothing is being spent in the ward its self , except for a few flowers once a year .If the ward was made into a Parish it could consider spending on its own residents needs , such as more playground equipment or youth projects , allotments maintenance what ever they decide upon as its their PRECEPT money and should be given the right to do so and to set it accordingly.

Its been proven at WNC meeting Via Mark West the proposed boundary of a new Parish Park Ward could work .

From Weston Favell Village boundary A43 down the A4500 via Abington Park turn left onto A5095 down to Billing Rd East . Then the new boundary taking in the Rushmere Rd estate To the Boys School would work as a New Parish.

I believe the information in this document for a Community Governance Review for Park Ward to go to stage two for a much wider consultation be en-acted as its residents democratic right to do so. Coupled with the promotion of this being currently advertised via WNC on its social media platforms for communities to engage .

I also attach a supporting letter from the Northampton South MP Andrew Lewer .A supporting email from the Cabinet member David Smith in charge of communities and letters from the Chairs of both Weston Favell Village and Bridgewater Drive Residents Association

Yours Faithfully ,

Clr Andrew Kilbride
Ward Council



Bridgewater Residents Association

Bringing community together.

31st January 2024

Dear Sir

PROPOSAL TO CEATE PARISH COUNCIL IN WESTON FAVELL AREA

I am Stephen Legg and am the current Chairman of Bridgewater Drive Residents Association. We have been informed by our local councillor. Andrew Kilbride, that the council are looking for expressions of interest in their outline plans to create parish councils in our area. Various members of our association have already signed the petition that Andy Kilbride has prepared.

I am writing this letter to re-enforce our interest in taking this proposal further so that we can give consideration to the scheme and evaluate the likely advantages and any disadvantages that might be involved.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Legg

Ms Catherine Whitehead,
Monitoring Officer
West Northamptonshire Council
One Angel Square
Angel Street
Northampton
NN1 1ED

25th January 2024

Dear Ms Whitehead,

Local residents and local elected representatives of Park Ward, containing Weston Favell Village and Abington Vale within my constituency, have been in touch to express interest in exploring the possibility of Weston Favell becoming a Parish Council area.

My purpose in writing to you today is to indicate to you my support for this exploratory process to be undertaken so that we can properly ascertain the support there may be for Weston Favell becoming a Parish Council.

I would be grateful if you would begin the necessary background preparations to enable the Council to look into this possibility.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Lewer MP



Community Governance Review: Stage 1 Consultation. Deadline for submission: 31 Jan 2024

Section 1 – About you

Are you 16 years old or over?

- Yes

Individuals: Please be aware that an anonymised version of this submission will be published on completion of the review

Organisation: including Parish Councils, decision of parish council or corporate organisations – your views and submission will be published on completion of the review

In what capacity are you giving us your views? (please tick)

- Parish or town Clerk

About you – organisation (if applicable)

Name of respondent:	Ciara Wanstall
Role/position	Clerk
Organisation	Boughton Parish Council
Preferred contact details	clerk@boughtonparishcouncil.co.uk

Section 2 – About town, parish to parish meeting

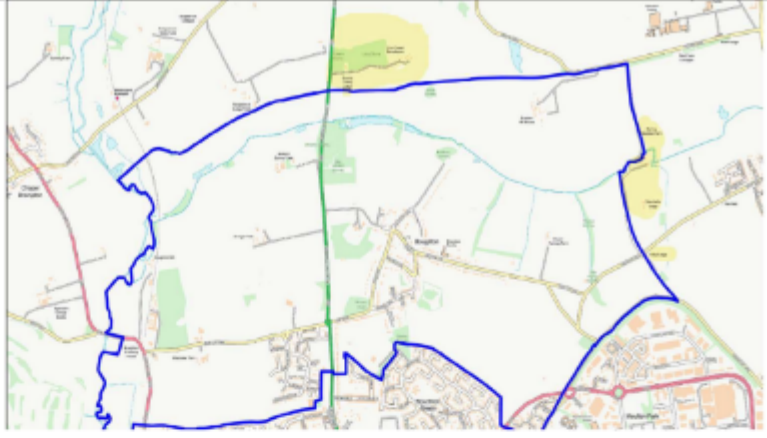
Which Town, Parish or Parish Meeting would you like to comment on?

Please tick

Boughton Parish Council	X
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Do you think the Parish/Town Council may benefit from exploring any of the following options

Question 1	<p>Do you think changes are needed for the arrangements for this Parish?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes <hr/> <p>Do you feel that the parish boundary should be altered?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yes <p>Do you feel that the parish should be abolished?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No <p>If you have indicated you think a parish boundary and or parish area should be altered or abolished, please provide details of the proposals of the boundary changes.</p> <p>Please also explain how the proposal will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Be reflective of the identities and interests of the community in the area; andb) Be effective and convenient in terms of local governance. <p>The Parish Council are in support of minor adjustments in the following manner:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Bringing the following heritage properties into the Boughton Parish Boundary (Fox Covert Farmhouse, Fox Covert Hall, Duke's Clump Lodge, Spring Meadow Farm, Spectacle Lodge and Holly Lodge), given the high density of heritage properties in Boughton village. Thereby bringing the whole of Spectacle Lane together with properties served by it into the parish. <i>(See the areas highlighted yellow on the map below.)</i>(2) 99 houses at Boughton Rise (development located off Boughton Green Road) transferring to the Parish of Kingsthorpe(3) No change in respect of Buckton Fields following the Parish Council's consultation which found little support for change <p>If you are able to supply a map to help to define and explain your response to this part, you can send this to cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk</p>
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Question 2	<p>Do you feel that the name of the existing parish should be changed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No <p>If yes, do you have a suggested name</p>
Question 3	<p>Do you feel that any parish should be grouped with another parish or parishes?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No <p>If you answered Yes to the above, let us know which other parish or parishes should be grouped:</p> <p>If no, please give your reasons for your response</p> <p>The Parish Council covers the historic village and some 1,100 homes at Buckton Fields with clearly defined boundaries. Therefore, no change in this respect is deemed necessary.</p>
Question 4	<p>Should the number of Councillors on an existing Parish Council be changed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No <p>If yes, please indicated what the proposed number should be and the reason for the proposal:</p> <p>If no, please give your reasons for your response</p> <p>The Parish Council currently have 11 Council members which seems appropriate.</p>
Question 5	<p>Do you consider the parish should be divided into parish wards to improve the representation of the parish?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No <p>Please give your reasons for your response</p>

	<p>The Parish Council make considerable endeavours to represent all aspects of the parish, regardless of geographical location.</p>
Question 6	<p>Do you have any other additional comments that support your submission?</p>

Subject: Governance review

Dear Sirs

As a resident of Caldecote, I would like to express my desire for Caldecote to move to under the remit of Tiffield Parish Council rather than Towcester in the review.

As a rural development, my household feel more aligned with this nearby village than with TTC.

Many thanks

Subject: Governance review

> Dear Sirs

>

> As a resident of Caldecote, I would like to express my desire for Caldecote to move to under the remit of Tiffield Parish Council rather than Towcester in the review.

>

> As a rural development, my household feel more aligned with this nearby village than with TTC.

>

> Many thanks

Dear Colleague
 Daventry Town Council would like to propose that Daventry Town Council continues with 16 ward representatives and that this are split into, 3 Ward Representatives for North West, 3 Ward Representatives for North East, 5 Ward Representatives for South West, 5 Ward Representatives for South East.
 Members referred to the proposal for 3 wards, proposed by the Boundary Commission and concurred this was the simplest solution but not the best democratic solution for the parish of Daventry.
 Members looked at specific areas in Daventry and the number of electorate and agreed it would be more logical to have four wards, as residents could identify with those wards and the representatives for those wards, especially when voting.

Please find below the rationale for the request to change the wards from 3 to 4, approved unanimously by members of Daventry Town Council:

Appendix 1 - Daventry Town Ward - WNC Boundary Review

Polling District	New Ward Name	Current Ward	2022 Popl	Variance	2028 Population	Variance	WNC			DTC1			DTC2			DTC3		
							nw	ne	s	sw	se	sv	s	se	sw	s	se	sw
ABC12 - Middelmore (Langdon Close & Highlands Drive)	Daventry North	Braunton and Crick	1,390		1,878		1,878											
ABC13 - Ashby Fields	Daventry North	Braunton and Crick	215		252		252											
ACE5 - Monkshor	Daventry North	Braunton and Crick	1,300		1,500		1,300											
ACE4 - Lang Farm	Daventry North	Daventry East	1,139		2,218		2,218											
ADW3 - Trimple	Daventry North	Daventry East	1,630		2,202		2,202											
Daventry North Total			7,133	-8%	9,381	9%	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531	1,531
ADE3 - Southbrook	Daventry South	Daventry East	2,461		2,544		2,544											
ADE2 - Day - Abbey South	Daventry South	Daventry East	2,728		2,818		2,818											
ADW4 - Danchoime	Daventry South	Daventry West	551		565		565											
ADW5 - Ashby Park	Daventry South	Daventry West	216		239		239											
ADW1 - Haaslands	Daventry South	Daventry West	1,933		1,976		1,976											
ADW2 - New Forest Way	Daventry South	Daventry West	411		438		438											
ADW6 - The Grange & Drayton	Daventry South	Daventry West	3,198		3,609		3,609											
ADW7 - Stefan Hill	Daventry South	Daventry West	1,525		1,558		1,558											
Daventry South Total			13,023	12%	13,747	7%	4,672	4,400	14,096	7,116	6,900	1,558	3,609	1,558	4,376	2,544	5,167	3,507
Average 1 member ward			3,685		4,277		3	1	3	3	10	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Average 2 member ward			7,769		8,554		3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Average 3 member ward			11,654		12,851		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

To: cgrconsultation <cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Subject: Resolution - Wootton Parish Council
Urgent: High

Attachments: Proposed parish boundary map 25.01.24.pdf (602.69 KB)

Good afternoon

Following a recent parish council meeting Wootton Parish Council discussed at length the CGR:

Wootton is in a unique position of having housing built across the existing parish boundary line with some residents having half their properties in each parish. With the proposed development, which is currently being promoted to the local plan, Wootton Parish Council is conscious that this problem will happen again and has therefore resolved to request the parish boundary be extended to go over the Ward boundary to incorporate the prospective new community. This is shown in the map attached.

Furthermore, Wootton Parish Council seeks to move its parish boundary over the Newport Pagnell Road to incorporate the new Tilia Homes site currently being built in Hardingstone Parish. There is very limited access to Hardingstone Parish from the new estate and the new estate incorporates a community building which Wootton Parish Council feels best placed to own and manage as a satellite building of Wootton Community Centre. Hardingstone Parish Council have already decided they do not want to run the new building or manage any of its open space or play areas – Wootton Parish Council is very well placed to do this. The traffic and residents from this new development see themselves as being part of Wootton Parish and are using our facilities.

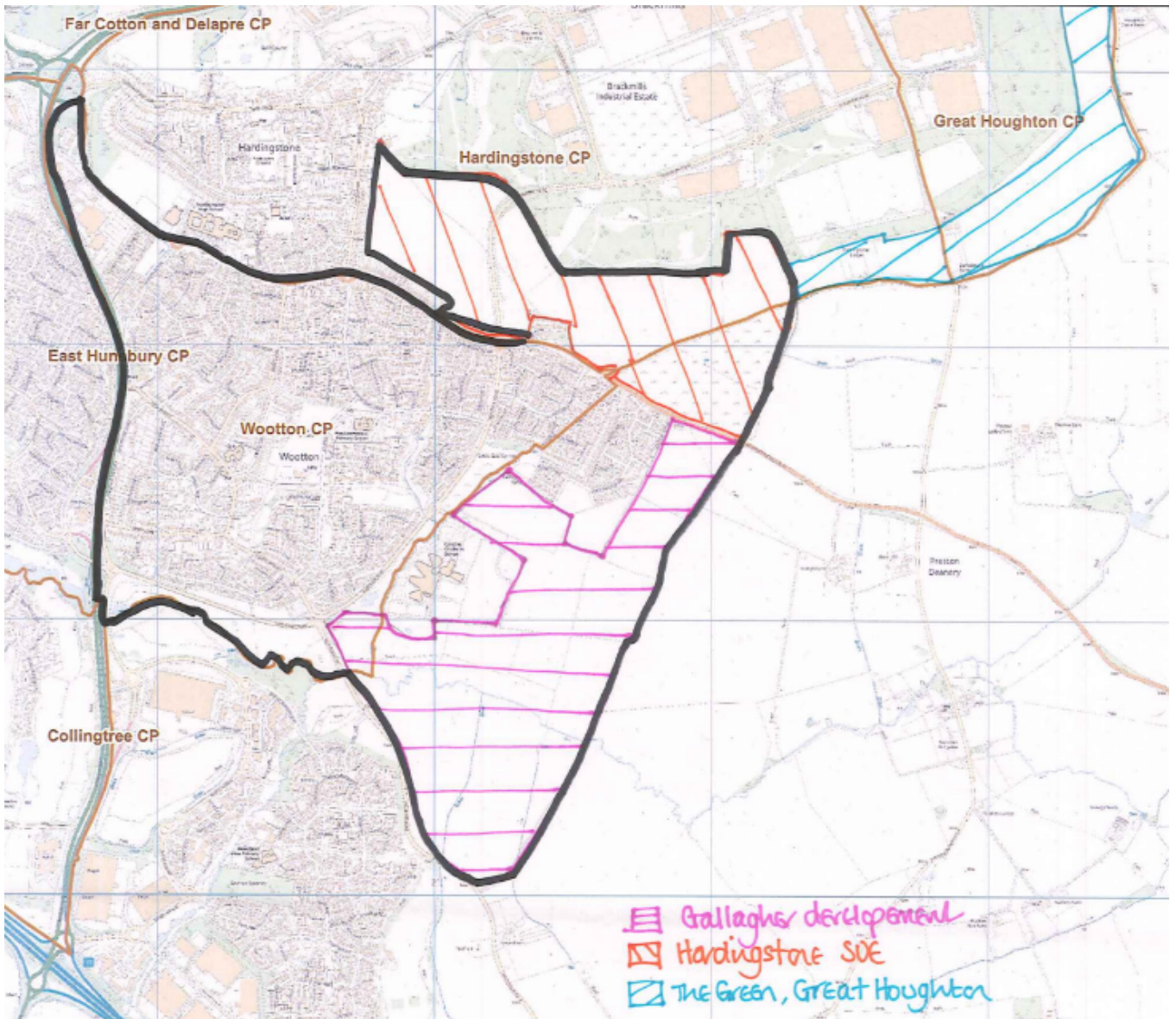
The attached map shows the area to which Wootton Parish Council wishes to extend its parish boundary – this is visible with the thick black line.

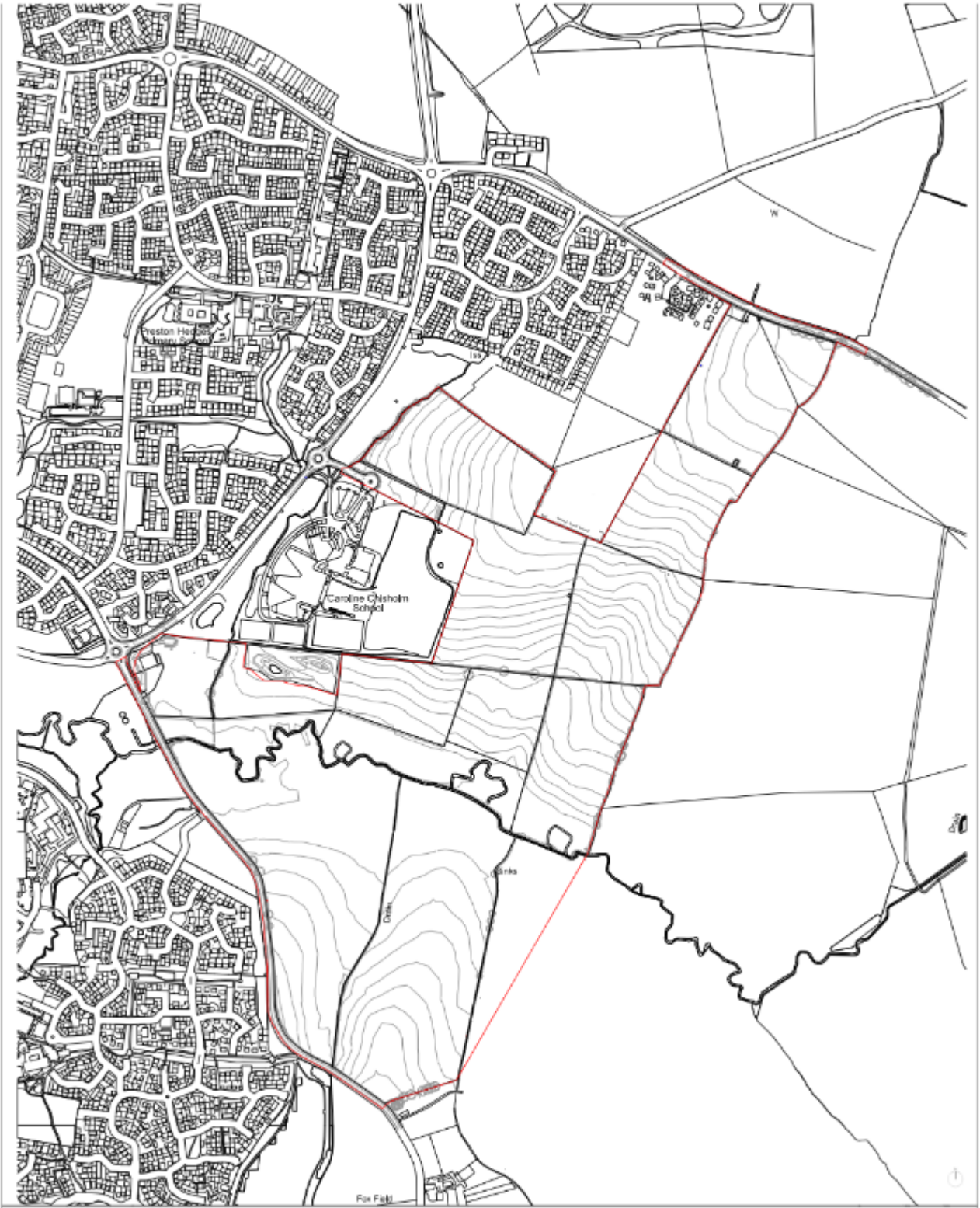
I would be grateful if you can please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Best wishes

T Lydd







Subject: Consultation on Hardingstone and Great Houghton Parish Boundary.

I refer to the Community Governance Review 2023/24 Phase 1.

I write as an individual, but also as a co-opted member of the Planning Committee of Hardingstone Parish Council, and resident of Hardingstone.

1. It is extremely difficult to find the most relevant information relating to this review, namely the maps showing the possible changes to Parish boundaries. It appears that the only way to view the maps is to start to fill in the 'Give us your views - Online Survey', but this route to the maps is not explained on the page. Most people will want to browse the changes before deciding whether they want to give their views, not the other way round. There should be links to the maps on the portal page, possibly under the section 'How to provide your views'.

2. I now move on to the suggested changes for the Hardingstone and Great Houghton (GH) parish boundary. I will be submitting comments by filling in the survey, but feel it is appropriate to highlight what appear to be flaws in the consultation review maps. The description of the suggested changes above the consultation maps says:
The (Great Houghton) Parish Council also seeks to extend its parish boundary to the west in order to incorporate the total area of the proposed development of The Green (LAA1098), incorporating some 800 new homes.
 'The Green' referred to relates to the street called 'The Green' in Great Houghton. This majority of this development is in Great Houghton, but a small area on its western edge is in Hardingstone. I understand the logic of the suggestion that it would be more sensible for the whole development area to lie within a single parish, i.e. Great Houghton.

My interpretation of that what GH are proposing just relates to 'The Green' development, but the review map shows a new boundary for GH which extends right to the edge of The Warren in Hardingstone. This incorporates both the Landimore Park and Hampton Green developments which doesn't appear to be what GH have asked for, and there doesn't seem to be any logical reason for such a proposal.

It seems probable that in drawing up the revised boundary, the street 'The Green' in Hardingstone has been taken as the western reference, possibly confusing it with 'The Green' in Great Houghton.

I would therefore ask you to tell me whether the map is reliable or not.

3. A final point. In inspecting the actual lines of the proposed Hardingstone boundary I am unable to determine whether they are 'broad brush' outlines for discussion purposes or proposed definitive positions. For example, the revised boundary which is moved to the east of Salthouse Road in Brackmills appears definitive, but the line from Landimore Road towards The Green in Hardingstone is possibly 'broad brush' as it cuts through the Landimore Park development splitting it into two parts. Based on this line, the suggested changes in curving one 'anomaly' would create another one!

Incidentally, I have noticed that the existing boundary shown on the review map along Salthouse Road has a kink in it, which does not agree with the existing boundary map shown beneath it, nor with the boundary shown on WNC interactive mapping.

Sent on: Thursday, January 25, 2024 9:27:36 AM
To: cgrconsultation <cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Subject: CGR for Helmdon Parish Council

Categories: Resolved

Hi,
Helmdon Parish Council require no changes within the council.
Thanks,
Charmaine

Charmaine Jay
Helmdon Parish Council Clerk

OVERSTONE Parish Council

Community Governance Review

Overstone Parish Council (OPC) is suggesting that the boundary between Overstone and Moulton be altered.

The majority of the Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE), Overstone Leys is in Overstone Parish. There are 2 possible options.

Option 1

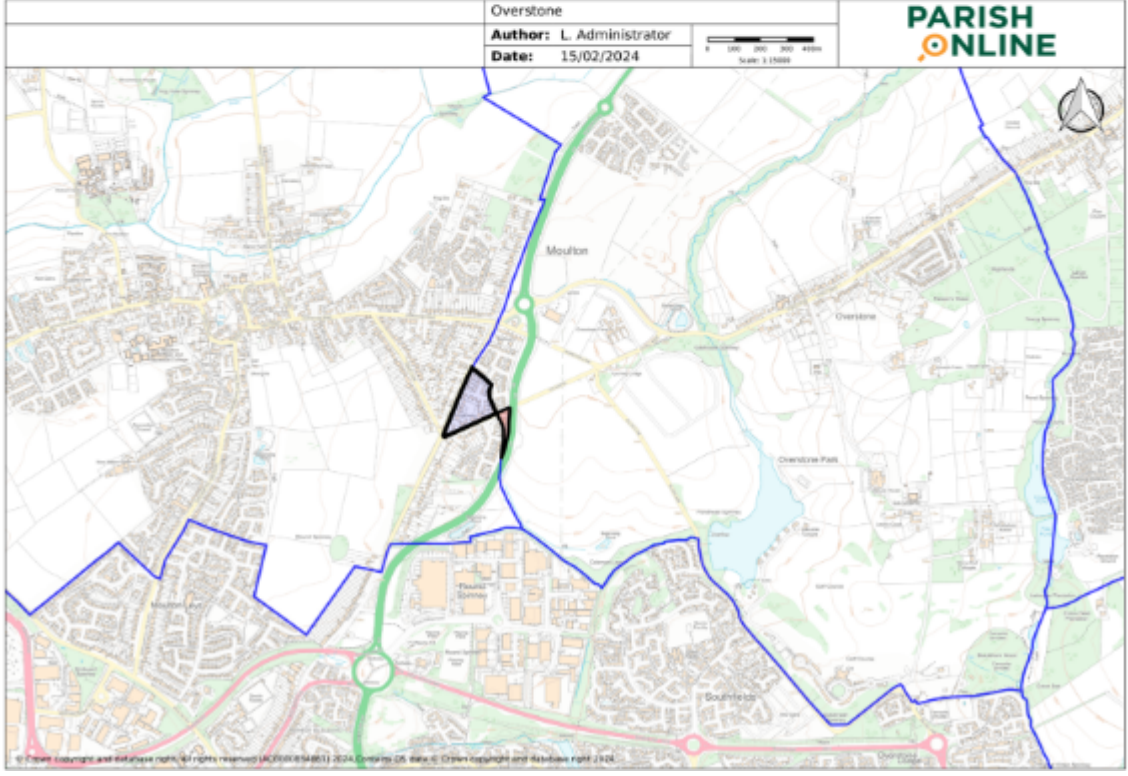
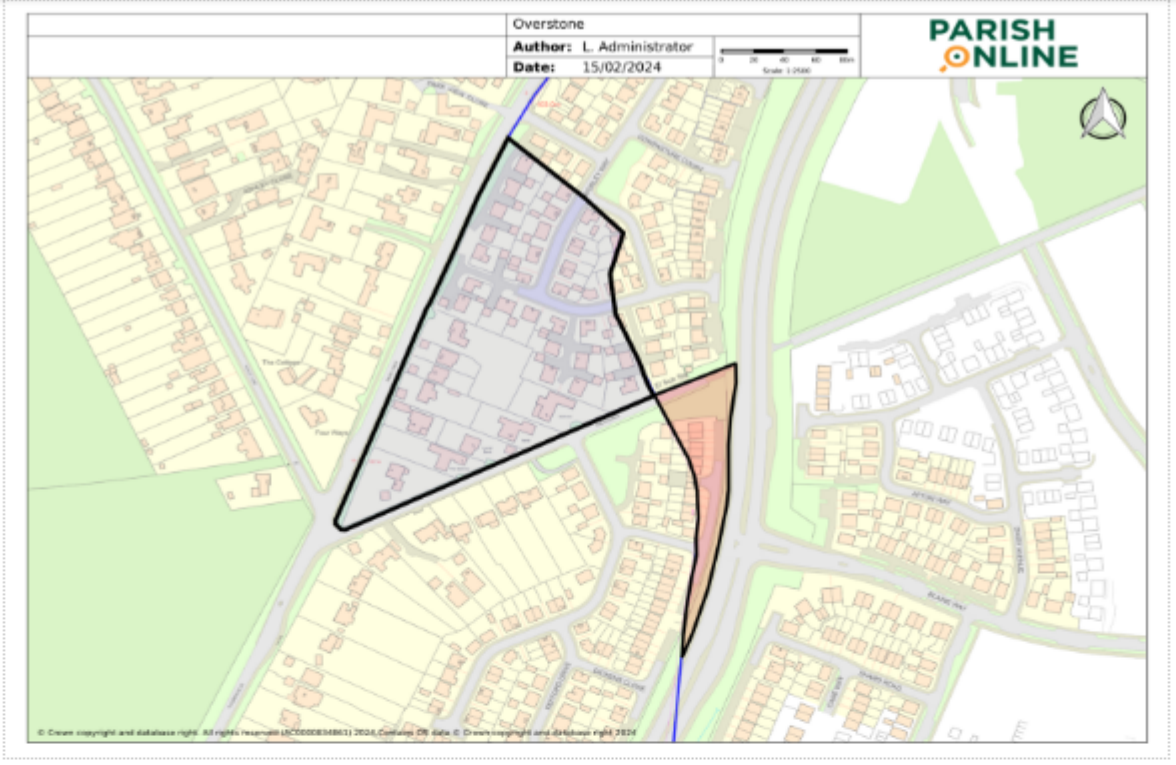
The first phase of the SUE is divided into 2 parts, 1a and 1b. 1a is shown below, currently the boundary between Overstone and Moulton cuts through this part of the development.

The houses built as part of the SUE in Moulton are shown with red dots, the houses in Overstone with green dots and the other houses are existing houses in the 2 Parishes.



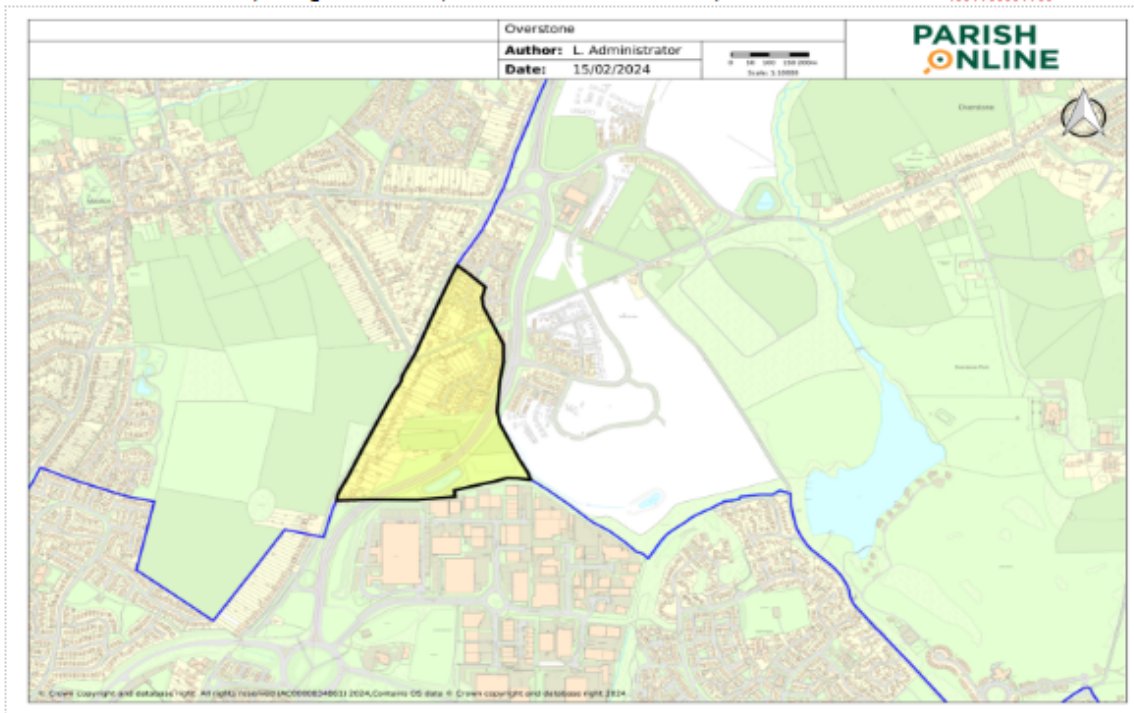
Overstone Parish Council (OPC) has been approached by residents from both 1a and the original houses on Overstone Lane in Overstone expressing their wish to stay in Overstone.

OPC suggests that the boundary be moved to The Avenue (road) as shown below moving Moulton residents into Overstone and Overstone residents into Moulton. This would create a straight boundary, clearly defined boundary between the 2 parishes.



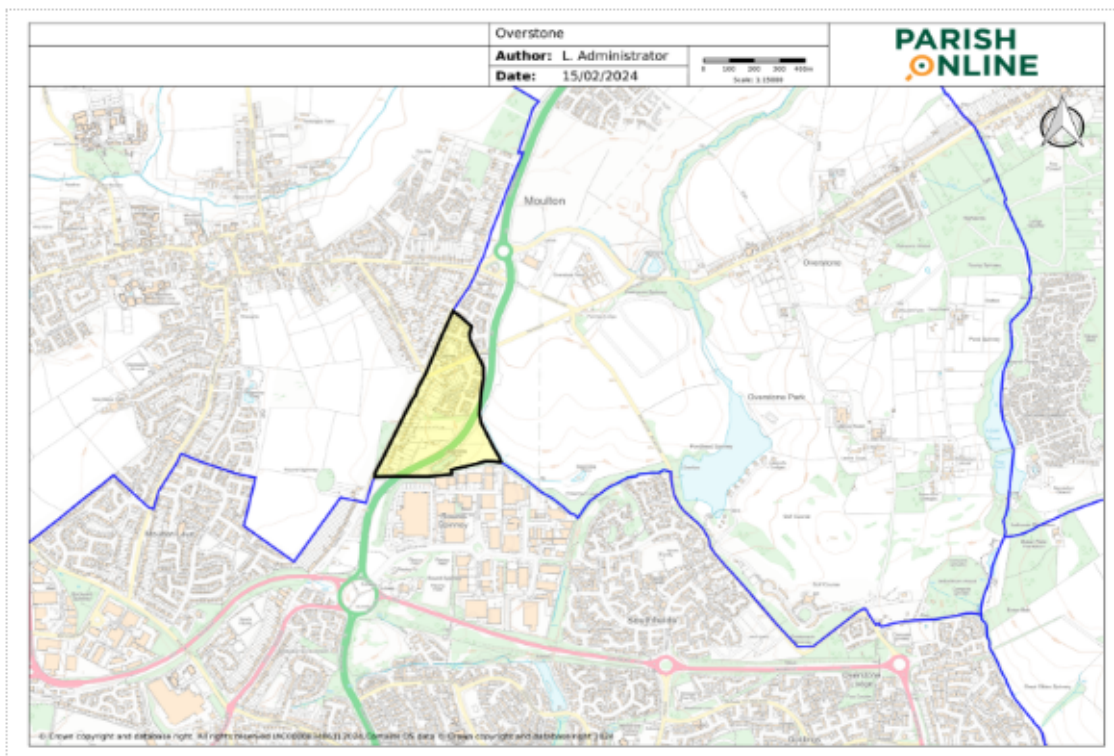
Option 2

To continue the boundary along the Old A43, so that the area shaded in yellow would move into Overstone.



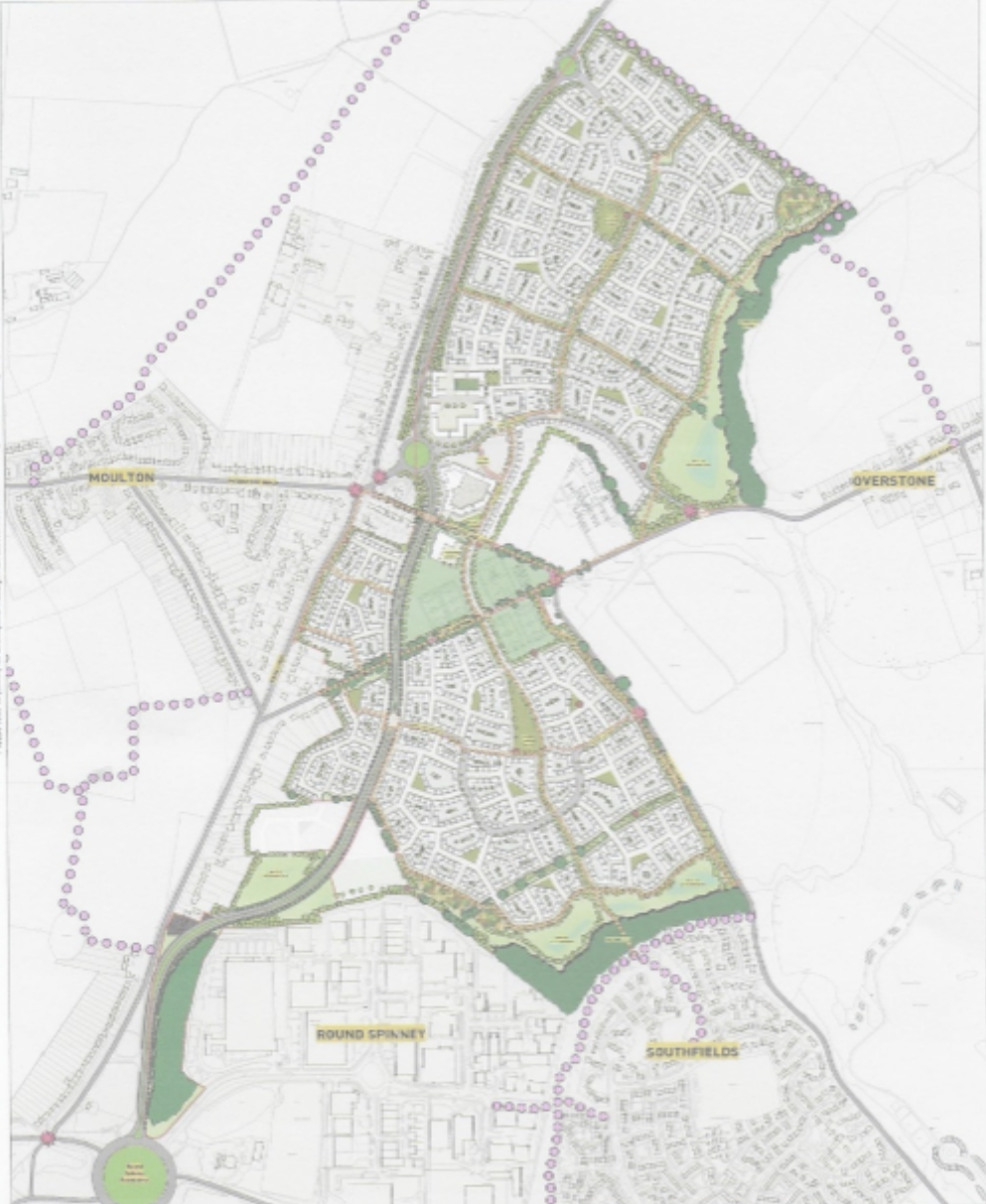
The benefits of this would be:

1. A straight boundary that would be easily understood by residents, Parish Cllrs and WNC
2. The whole of the SUE would be in Overstone.



A map of Overstone Leys for your information showing the position of the new A43 bypass. The A43 bypass is in Overstone Parish.

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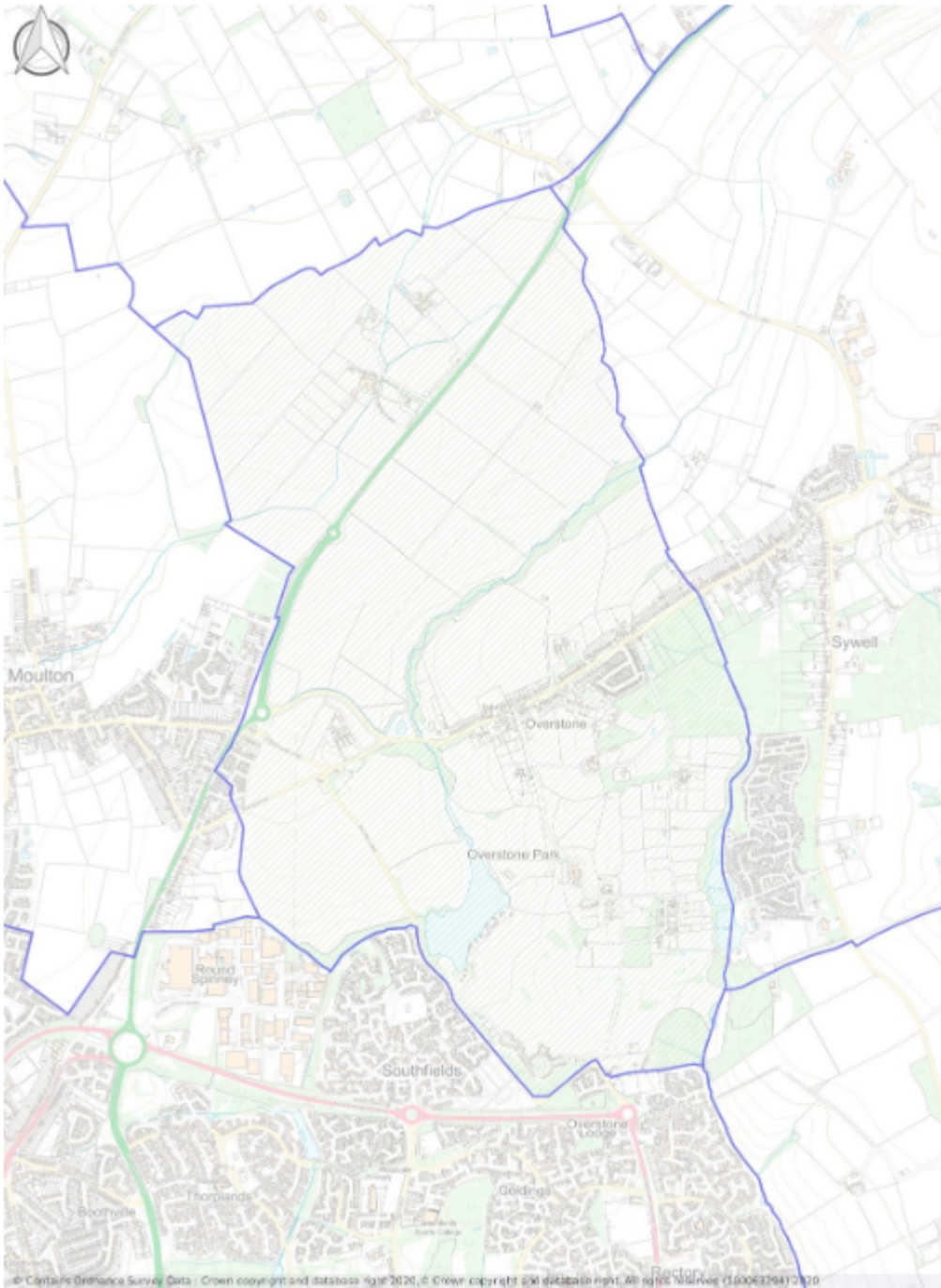
- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Site Boundary | Children's Play Facilities | Existing Vegetation | Public Right of Way |
| Indesirable Development Blocks | Areas for Children and Teenagers | Area Landscaping | Key Junction Improvement |
| Parks and Gardens | Kiosks | Priority routes for cycle hire | |
| Nature and Open Natural Greenways | Other Facilities | Permeable footpaths | |

Overstone Leys, Northampton - Indicative Masterplan

T: 01603 47864 | F: 01603 47227 | www.pegasus.co.uk | Telford, Shropshire | 2019/2020/2021 | 1:2000 N/A0 | Aug. 2019/2020/2021 | Overstone Leys Development



A map of Overstone Parish showing the Old A43 running along Park View and Thorpeville.





LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD

Jane Austin
Executive Officer

Moulton Parish Council
Moulton Community Centre - Sandy Hill
Readings, Moulton, Northants, NN3 7AX
t: 01604 642202
e: info@moultonparishcouncil.org.uk
w: www.moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk

25th January 2024

Dear Sirs

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE

Moulton Parish Council wish to recommend the following amendments to the current Moulton parish boundary: include the whole of Moulton Leys (both Manning Road and Cottingham Drive developments) and a small number of properties in Overstone/Overstone Leys:

1. Moulton Leys

(see Appendix 1) The area covered by the current polling district BBP1 (Moulton Leys 1845) currently sits within the Boothville and Parklands Ward. The current polling district formed part of the outer edge of the former Northampton Borough Council boundary with Daventry District Council and is an historical boundary that does not reflect the current community. Moulton Leys is a distinct settlement to Northampton and is coalescent with the village of Moulton. It is separated from Northampton by Moulton Way, which at this point forms a division between the urban area of Northampton and the rural area to the North. Residents of Moulton Leys use community facilities in Moulton: Moulton Community Centre and Library, Moulton GP Surgery, Moulton Primary School, Moulton Sports and Science College, churches, shops and other leisure and entertainment facilities and attend village events. Moulton Leys residents receive copies of the Moulton Scene (Moulton parish magazine) and identify as Moulton residents. The proposed ward boundary change incorporates Moulton Leys into Moulton ward from May 2025. This move will in turn automatically realign the Northants Police policing boundary moving Moulton Leys from Northampton Suburban (Kingsthorpe, Headlands and Boothville) to Daventry (Brixworth and Moulton). Moulton GP Surgery and Moulton Parish Churches all include Moulton Leys within their respective boundaries, leaving the current political boundary the only anomaly.

2. Overstone/Overstone Leys

(see Appendix 2). The Northampton North Sustainable Urban Extension (NNSUE) of 3600 homes is mainly sited within the adjacent parish of Overstone. The current parish boundary between Moulton and Overstone cuts directly through Phase 1 of the NNSUE leaving some properties in Moulton parish and next-door neighbours in Overstone parish. The new A43 bypass provides a definitive boundary between the settlement of Overstone and NNSUE Phase 1. Properties in Overstone parish Phase 1 are coalescent with Moulton parish. Residents of Overstone Leys use community facilities in Moulton: Moulton Community Centre and Library, Moulton GP Surgery, Moulton Primary School, Moulton Sports and Science College, churches, shops and other leisure and entertainment facilities and attend village events. Overstone Leys residents receive copies of the Moulton Scene (Moulton parish magazine). Overstone is already sited within the current Moulton ward so is already aligned with the Northants Police policing boundary, Moulton GP Surgery and Moulton Parish Churches.

Finance

Moulton Parish Council (MPC) are aware of the current disparity between Band 'D' properties in the 3 communities and a realignment would increase the council tax payments for residents of Moulton Leys and Overstone. MPC would seek to mitigate this increase for residents by providing many, many value for money services to assist residents with the uplift in council tax payment. Details of this mitigation can be found throughout our response. MPC would request the removal of the 'special expenses' payment of £11.02 per annum currently paid in addition to council tax by residents within Moulton Leys for greenworks. This cost is already included within MPC's council tax element. Through the harmonization process, MPC will seek to remove this historical disparity.

MPC acknowledge that this will lead to an increase in council tax for some residents but guarantee that every penny of council tax paid to MPC will be spent in the local area to support local residents, improve their daily lives and maintain and enhance the local area and, not, as is the case now, on one off events in Northampton Town Centre and other areas within the Northampton Town boundary.

Governance

Moulton Parish Council has an exemplary track record in governance and has recently been awarded the following accolades:

2018 ACRE Village of the Year Award– awarded for the strength shown in retaining a sense of identity as a community as the population expands.

2022/23 NCALC Council of the Year– awarded for our Health and Wellbeing outreach provision.

December 2023 Local Council Award Scheme– Quality Gold accreditation. Moulton Parish Council is the **first** and **only** council in Northamptonshire to be awarded this prestigious accreditation.

Parish council members are experienced in business and community matters and work well with the Parish Team to deliver a wide and varied package of services that have a positive impact on the daily lives of residents.

Any technical, administrative or logistical hurdles should not be placed in the way of doing the right thing for the residents of Moulton Leys and righting an historical arbitrary boundary. The proposed boundary changes better reflect our local community and is reflective of community identity and interests.

The inclusion of the two areas into the Moulton parish boundary aligns with West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) Vision as outlined in the Corporate Plan and Cllr Nunn's statement on Community Governance Review:

WNC Corporate Plan

Our vision

Our vision is to make West Northants a great place to live, work, visit and thrive, a place:

- where there is opportunity for all – where children are given the best start in life and vulnerable children are supported and protected. A place where all young people grow up qualified and inspired to succeed
- where people are proud to live, with strong sustainable communities, decent homes, a fulfilling job, and stress free travel through well connected places
- where people are supported to live independent, self-sufficient lives and where everyone has the best life chances
- where services are joined up and if you need a helping hand you'll get it
- with a thriving and prosperous economy that draws in investment, visitors and talent
- where we have modern towns but where rural character is cherished
- at the forefront of action on climate change with clean air, sustainable growth and a flourishing natural environment.

Cllr Jonathan Nunn, Leader of West Northamptonshire Council states the following:

Parish councils can provide a formal local government voice for their residents, and services for local people such as clubs for youth, elderly, parents, sports & leisure facilities, libraries, additional care for the local environment, and much more. So the Community Governance Review is more than a process—it's an invitation for you to bring positive change to your local community by getting involved in shaping the future of West Northamptonshire.

Your input will contribute to building local parish and town council arrangements that best reflect your local community and that will stand the test of time. Councillor Jonathan Nunn, the Leader of West Northamptonshire Council

The proposed realignment supports the Localism Act of 2011 which facilitates the devolution of decision-making powers from central government control to individuals and communities. The Act aims to decentralise power from Whitehall and back into the hands of local council and communities to act on local priorities. MPC holds the General Power of Competence (GPC), a power given to suitably qualified parish councils by the Localism Act of 2011. The GPC is the power of first resort and gives councils the power to do anything an individual can do provided it is not prohibited by other legislation.

The Executive Officer, Finance and HR Manager and Parish Administrator all hold the CILCA qualification (Qualified Clerk). The EO is CIPD qualified and holds the Level 4 Community Governance qualification. A comprehensive Staff Training and Continuous Professional Development programme for all staff is in place.

Moulton Parish Council consists of 14 councillors, we are not proposing to increase this number. One of our councillors already lives on Moulton Leys and for the May 2025 council elections we will actively recruit councillors from Moulton Leys and Overstone to ensure representation for all areas.

MPC has developed a Five-Year Business Plan (2023-2028) [KMBT_C454-20160408164642 \(moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk\)](#) which is updated quarterly. Once confirmed, the formal integration of residents and new areas will be added into the short- and medium-term projects.

Moulton Parish Council has a Neighbourhood Development Plan (2014-2029) [Neighbourhood Development Plan | Moulton Parish Council \(moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk\)](#) in place. 2024 is a review year with consultation scheduled throughout this year and early next. On determination of the CGR, the two areas will be incorporated into the Moulton NDP area and residents included in the consultation process.

Once the realignment of the ward boundary has been officially ratified by Parliament, the Northants Policing boundary will be aligned. Moulton GP Surgery and Moulton churches boundaries already include Moulton Leys and Overstone/Overstone Leys. The parish boundary is the anomaly.

Health and Wellbeing

Moulton Parish Council has worked in partnership with Moulton GP surgery since 2015 and developed a comprehensive, holistic Health and Wellbeing Strategy [moulton-and-surrounding-areas-health-wellbeing-strategy-august-2023.pdf \(moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk\)](#). Our Health and Wellbeing (H and W) Strategy aligns with the West Northants Council 'Live Your Best Life Strategy' and encompasses Moulton Surgery boundary i.e. includes residents living in Moulton Leys and Overstone/Overstone Leys. Our H and W Strategy is used as an exemplar for Northamptonshire and adjacent counties to follow.

During the pandemic, MPC developed a bank of volunteers (over 150) who supported all residents living within Moulton GP Surgery boundary with shopping, hot meals, prescription collection etc. Approximately half of the volunteers came from Moulton Leys and many still work with us today. We worked in partnership with the Emergency Planning Team (NCC at the time) leaving them free to

support other communities in the county. Moulton Community Centre was and still is used as a Covid and Flu vaccination centre for the area.

Local Area Partnerships

Moulton and Overstone parishes sit within the Rural North (DSN1) LAP and Moulton Leys within Northampton North (N5) together with Kingsthorpe, Boothville, Headlands and Parklands. Our Executive Officer is part of the DSN1 working group, the only parish council in West Northants to be invited to join and attend LAP meetings.

DSN1 priorities are:

1. Carers
2. Older people
3. Social isolation

The DSN1 priorities are included in our H and W strategy.

N5 LAP area has the highest number of over 65-year-olds and concerns include:

High levels of crime and ASB

Poor levels of connection

Life expectancy is lower than the national average for both males and females

Priorities include:

1. Police after school activities to reduce ASB
2. Chatty café
3. Asset mapping for warm spaces and foodbanks.

The priorities for N5 mainly focus on the areas of Kingsthorpe and Boothville.

Common themes across all LAP's are:

- Welcoming Spaces
- Active Lives
- Dementia
- Reduce pressure on statutory services
- Carers

As well as supporting the priorities for DSN1 we already support the priorities for N5 and the common themes in the following ways:

1. Super relationship with our local Policing team, PCSO's visit both schools in Moulton and take part in story times etc at Moulton Community Centre. We have an excellent relationship with Moulton Sports and Science College (MSSC) and see an increasing number of young people from MSSC meeting at the library each evening after school. Free Care Packs of Toiletries, toothpaste, sanitary products sexual health protection information (requested by Moulton GP Surgery) etc. are available. We are also able to pass on any safeguarding issues.
2. A Chatty Café Scheme is one of many cafes/groups/events held at Moulton Community Centre. We welcome residents from any area to join us at the Centre.
3. Moulton Community Centre has operated as a Warm Welcoming Space since September 2022 and is open 7 days every week. Hot food and hot and cold drinks are available every day after 4pm. Families and residents experiencing hardship can access hot food and drinks throughout the day. Our Community Food Larder runs weekly each Wednesday and is available to anyone for the purchase of cheaper groceries and free fruit, vegetables and bread. We also respond to requests for emergency food parcels from Moulton GP surgery, Moulton Primary School, MSSC and Adult Social Care Team at WNC. Referrals include residents and families from Moulton Leys and Overstone/Overstone Leys.
4. 2024 will see Moulton listed as 'dementia safe' community, following guidance from our GP Surgery we are launching a comprehensive initiative 'The Silver Living' Project aimed at supporting older residents in the community, especially those residents living with dementia or residents caring for someone with dementia.
5. We work with Northamptonshire Carers and WNC Supporting Independence Programme (SIP) to support carers in our area.

Community Transport

Moulton Parish Council has been awarded £35,000 S106 monies to provide a Community Transport Scheme. The scheme is an extension of our established Volunteer Driver Car Scheme and is open to all residents living in the Moulton GP surgery boundary. The scheme will provide transport to and from medical appointments, Moulton Community Centre and local shops and supermarkets.

New Healthcare Centre

For the last 15 years, Moulton Parish Council has been working with Moulton GP Surgery to find land for a new Healthcare Centre to support the growth in population. MPC own 1 acre of land opposite Moulton Community Centre, designated as the site for the new Healthcare Centre. Planning for the Centre is currently underway. The new Healthcare Centre will complete the 'Community Hub' for residents of Moulton and the surrounding communities.

Community Facilities

Moulton Community Centre and Library (MCC)

MCC is owned and managed by Moulton Parish Council and opened in June 2017 to provide the community infrastructure to support the growth in population in Moulton (including Moulton Leys) and the adjacent NNSUE. MCC is a fabulous building which has become the focal point for the community. Residents from Moulton Leys and Overstone/Overstone Leys are amongst the most frequent visitors. Several local groups and exercise classes are based at MCC. MCC is so popular, a café extension was added last year to accommodate the number of visitors. In order to 'future proof' the centre, plans have been drawn up for a two-storey extension as and when funds allow.

Moulton Community Managed Library (CML)

Since becoming a CML in January 2021, user numbers have increased dramatically and number between 10,000 -12,000 visitors each month. Moulton CML is home to the Health and Wellbeing Hub and delivers many events and initiatives every day for all ages. Hundreds of families visit us every day during the school holidays where we provide free or very low cost activities for children of all ages. As well as residents from Moulton, many visitors and library volunteers live in Moulton Leys or Overstone/Overstone Leys.

Moulton Football Club (MFC)

MFC is owned by Moulton Parish Council but is managed and maintained by Moulton Magpies Football Club. MFC is home to 28 football teams, 380 players and 120 walking footballers – children and adults from Moulton Leys and Overstone/Overstone Leys are very much part of the set up at MFC. MFC engages 90 formal coaches and 30 volunteers, a good number of whom are living on Moulton Leys.

Picnics - a wraparound before/after school and holiday child care business operates from MFC providing vital child care for 90 local families with children attending Moulton Primary School and the younger year groups at MSSC.

Moulton Parish Council submitted a planning application last year for a two-storey extension to provide additional community facilities. The planning application was approved in September. As soon as funds allow, the extension will be built to deliver further community facilities for local residents.

There are numerous other community facilities present in Moulton that make Moulton one of the most sustainable, self-contained communities in West Northants and they include:

Moulton Theatre

Moulton Leisure Centre

Local supermarket

Post Office

Pharmacy

Car Repair Garage

All these facilities are used regularly by residents from Moulton, Moulton Leys and Overstone/Overstone Leys.

Moulton is home to many groups:

Scouts/Girl Guides etc

Gardening Society

Sports clubs etc

Membership is made up of Moulton, Moulton Leys and Overstone Leys residents.

Education

There are several preschool and nursery establishments in Moulton, used by residents living in Moulton, Moulton Leys and Overstone Leys.

Moulton Primary School includes Moulton Leys in their catchment area.

Moulton Sports and Science College – Moulton Leys, Overstone and Overstone Leys are all included in the catchment area. A high proportion of pupils on the school roll live in Moulton Leys.

Such is the number of children attending both Moulton schools that a walking bus is in operation from Moulton Leys to Moulton Primary School. During the last 10 years, any housing development planning application in Moulton parish has provided an improvement to Safer Routes to School at the request of Moulton Parish Council. The Safer Routes to Schools improvements (footpath and new entrance to MSSC) contained within planning application DA/2018/1042 was specifically requested by MPC to protect children walking from Moulton Leys into Moulton village.

Higher education is available at Moulton College.

Places of Worship

There are 3 churches in Moulton and all 3 church families include Moulton Leys in their catchment areas.

Moulton Church

30 families and 15 volunteers, 1 church warden and 1 staff member live on Moulton Leys

Moulton Cemetery

In 2008, Moulton Parish Council created a Scattered Ashes Area specifically to cater for residents wishing to be interred in Moulton Cemetery but not having the required eligibility. Full burials for non-residents are still not available. Should eligibility be proved, residents outside the current parish boundary must pay a non-resident fee, 3 times that of Moulton residents. The current situation is very distressing for residents of Moulton Leys as they automatically presume that entitlement exists as they live in 'Moulton'. [Cemetery Regulations | Moulton Parish Council \(moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk\)](https://www.moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk) Overstone Parish Church has very few grave spaces remaining. Realigning the boundaries between Moulton, Moulton Leys and Overstone/Overstone Leys will not only remove a degree of pressure from West Northants Council and Northampton Town Council to provide grave spaces but enable residents from Moulton Leys to be buried in Moulton Cemetery at the resident rate.

Community and Connectivity

People identify as communities, many residents living on Moulton Leys consider themselves to be 'Moulton' residents and a large number of families have long associations with Moulton, having grown up in the parish or have family members in the village. We are very keen to support families with this association and formally welcome them into the parish.

Overstone Leys is a new housing development which has not yet formed its own identity, it is separated from Overstone village by the new A43 bypass and naturally aligns with Moulton. MPC produces a parish magazine, Moulton scene, twice each year. The magazine is delivered to all houses in Moulton, Moulton Leys and Overstone Leys. Welcome letters are delivered to all new residents on Overstone Leys so new residents can see the facilities available to them in the area. Footpaths and cycleways from Moulton Leys to facilities in Moulton i.e. Village centre and Moulton Community Centre already exist. Footpaths lead from Overstone/Overstone Leys into Moulton.

Public Open Space

Moulton Leys has 4 small areas of Public Open Space (POS) including one play area currently in the ownership of Northampton Town Council. The POS on Overstone Leys has not yet passed into MPC's ownership and is still owned and maintained by the developer. Moulton Leys POS and highways owned land is maintained by Veolia. It would be the intention of MPC to take ownership of any POS land in Moulton Leys and Overstone Leys and, current contracts allowing, take responsibility for the maintenance and enhancement of the areas as with all POS areas in Moulton.

Environment

Waste collection - we are aware that waste collections for Moulton and Moulton Leys are on different days. We see no reason for this to change and would presume a simple recharging arrangement would be made to right any invoicing anomalies.

Policing

Moulton and Overstone/Overstone Leys are policed by the Brixworth and Moulton local policing team. At present, Moulton Leys falls under the Northampton policing team. When the Moulton ward boundary is approved by Parliament, Moulton Leys will automatically fall under the Brixworth and Moulton policing team.

In summary, this submission has been prepared in line using the guidance from the Local Government Boundary Commission Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued to Principal Authorities. Moulton Parish Council firmly believe that the proposed changes reflect local identities and facilitate effective and local governance.

The following guidance from the Local Government Boundary Commission Guidance is particularly relevant and supports our submission:

Paragraph 15

... 'over time communities may expand with new housing developments. This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours. In such circumstances the council should consider undertaking a community governance review, the terms of reference of which should include consideration of the boundaries of existing parishes...'

Paragraph 51

... 'the identification of a community is not precise or rigid matter. The pattern of daily life in each of the existing communities, the local centres for education and childcare, shopping, community activities, worship, leisure pursuits, transport facilities and means of communication generally will have an influence...'

Paragraph 57

... 'place matters. Communities and Local Government's vision is of prosperous and cohesive communities which offer a safe healthy and sustainable environment. One aspect of this is strong and accountable local govt and leadership. Parsh Councils can perform a central role in community leadership. Depending on the issue sometimes they will want to take the lead locally while at other times they may at as an important stake holder or in partnership with others. PC's will want to work effectively with partners to undertake the role of 'place shaping' and be responsive to the challenges and opportunities of their area in a co ordinated way...'

Paragraph 58

... 'it is clear that how people perceive where they live – their neighbourhoods is significant in considering the identities and interests of local communities and depends on a range of circumstances – geography, make up of community, sense of identity...'

Paragraph 65

...wider initiatives such as quality parish scheme – parish councils well managed and good at representing local views will be in a better position to work closely with partner authorities to take more responsibility for shaping their areas development and running its services..'

Paragraph 80

...'general rule should be that the parish is based on an area which reflects community identity and interest and which is of a size which is viable as an administrative unit of local govt...'

Yours faithfully



Jane Austin
Executive Officer
On behalf of Moulton Parish Council



Jane Austin
Executive Officer

Moulton Parish Council
Moulton Community Centre - Sandy Hill
Reedings, Moulton, Northants, NN3 7AX
t: 01604 642202
e: info@moultonparishcouncil.org.uk
w: www.moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk

13th February 2024

Dear Sirs

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL RESPONSE Submission 2

Following last week's council meeting it was resolved to submit a further response to the Community Governance Review.

Moulton Parish Council are disappointed to note that a recent online survey undertaken by Northampton Town Council contained misleading information relating to historical council tax payments to NTC and MPC. The information omitted to mention the special expenses payment paid by residents of Moulton Leys in addition to the element of council tax paid to NTC and failed to mention the harmonization process that would take place should two communities be joined.

The online survey has caused huge unrest amongst residents of Moulton Leys and the mis information continues to be perpetuated on social media forums creating a negative bias towards the proposals.

Although the online survey has now been closed and no longer appears on the NTC website no clarification or amendment of the information presented has been offered by NTC.

Moulton Parish Council believe that the online survey has compromised the Community Governance Review at this early stage. A large swathe of residents have not responded to this survey as they were unaware it was taking place. MPC would ask that any petitions or responses based on this information be disregarded.

Moulton Parish Council submitted a balanced, evidenced and well thought out response to the Community Governance Review using the Boundary Commission Guidance as a framework.

Based on the Boundary Commission Guidance, MPC believe that including Moulton Leys and a small section of Overstone Leys as detailed in our previous submission, fits the criteria required. Moulton Parish Council will carry out its own consultation involving all residents when the CGR progresses to the next stage.

Yours faithfully

Jane Austin
Executive Officer

To: egconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk
Subject: Community Governance Review - Moulton Leys Proposal, Resident Response

Categories: Resolved

9 White Doe Drive, Moulton, Northants, NN3 7HD

Dear Sirs

I wish to respond to the above consultation and to confirm my absolute support for Moulton Leys to be included in the Moulton parish boundary and submit the following comments to evidence why:

All three of my children attended Moulton Primary School and Moulton Secondary School. My employment for the last 30 years has been with organisations based in Moulton village. I do not identify in anyway with Northampton.

Day to day shopping is catered for in Moulton village - supermarket, pharmacy, post office etc. Open green spaces in the village are well maintained and used for walking and dog walking.

I have been a patient at Moulton GP surgery for 24 years. Moulton Community Centre and Library is a focal point for local residents and activities and events organised at the centre cater for all ages. Moulton is the one of the most sustainable communities in Northamptonshire with 3 pubs, 3 churches and a Theatre cinema. Residents from Moulton Leys use all of these facilities.

The NTC website is bereft of information for Moulton Leys residents and instead concentrates on promoting town centre events. There is no mention of any health and wellbeing initiatives which are a fundamental function of parish and town councils.

The boundary review is long overdue as the current boundary is an arbitrary boundary created many years ago and does not reflect the current situation. It does not align with the Moulton GP surgery boundary, Moulton Parish Church Boundary, proposed ward boundary which will see the Policing boundary realign to mirror the new ward boundary.

I have completed the online survey on the NTC website and am appalled at the statement at the beginning of this survey regarding the council tax payment. It does not compare like for like and is misrepresentative and disingenuous. NTC has omitted to include the additional special expense payment that residents pay for grass cutting in the area or failed to mention the harmonisation process that takes place when two communities with differing levels of council tax payments merge. Instead it has caused wide spread unrest implying that residents of Moulton Leys will have to pay another £150 per year on their council tax if the boundary changes. This is factually incorrect and NTC needs to inform residents that they have misled them. Any responses received from this consultation will be based on incorrect information and should be disregarded.

I believe the only reason NTC wish to retain Moulton Leys in their boundary is for financial gain. There has never been any interest or communication from NTC prior to this Consultation and no evidence of any spend of any council tax in Moulton Leys. I do not wish my council tax payment to subsidise events in Northampton Town Centre and other communities in Northampton which have no relevance or impact on my daily life. I am happy to support an increase in my council tax payment where I know every penny will be used to provide events/initiatives in my local area and will directly improve my day-to-day life.

Please acknowledge receipt of my email. Thank you.

From: Cllr Mike Warren <Mike.Warren@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Sent on: Friday, January 26, 2024 1:37:11 PM
To: cgrconsultation <cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Subject: Community Governance Review
Attachments: Moulton Parish Council CGR Response v2 250124.pdf (1.65 MB)

Please record my full support to MPC's response attached, to the Community Governance Review

Kind Regards

Cllr. Mike Warren
Moulton Division
Chair of Licensing

West Northamptonshire Council | One Angel Square | Angel Street | Northampton | NN1 1ED

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To: cgrconsultation <cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Subject: Community Governance review
Attachments: Moulton Parish Council CGR Response 250124.pdf (1.58 MB)

Categories: Resolved

I would like to offer my support for Moulton Parish Council's response to the Community Governance review.

To: cgrconsultation <cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Subject: Community Governance Review Moulton PC Chairman's response
Attachments: Moulton Parish Council CGR Response 250124.pdf (1.58 MB)

The communities Moulton Leys and Cottingham Drive have long looked towards Moulton Parish for community events and services. Moulton Way also serves as a distinct geographical boundary between those communities and the commercial & industrial district of Moulton Park. Moulton PC has developed in recent years to a fully supportive organisation for residents within the village and surrounding areas. We provide services, support and events for all those residents "from cradle to grave" and will be able to welcome both of these communities into Moulton Parish.

The attached response has my full support and that of the parish council and I commend it to the consultation and strongly recommend acceptance of this proposal.

Cllr David Aarons
Chairman - Moulton Parish Council

To: cgrconsultation <cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Subject: Moulton Boundary consultation

Hello,

I live in Moulton Leys, but have always considered myself to be a resident of Moulton parish. I work in Moulton, my children attend both schools in the village, as I did too. My son plays for Moulton FC and my daughter plays hockey in Moulton. We use all of the facilities Moulton has to offer, the library, the community centre, the shops and chemist.

If someone asks where I live, my answer is Moulton. I would never say 'Moulton Leys' in my mind we are all part of the same thing.

Kind regards

Subject: Proposed boundary change -moulton

Categories: Resolved

I was made aware this evening by a local resident in Moulton that there is a proposed boundary change from northampton to moulton parish council that will include my home, something I was completely unaware of. I have received no notification or correspondence to this effect, so was surprised to hear about this by a neighbour rather than the councils involved.

Having searched for details it seems that this is true and that the first stage of this process has already been completed, presumably with those impacted not informed, which I find difficult to understand.

I would like to ask and hope you can confirm advise:

- * What steps should be followed by the councils to inform residents of proposed changes like this?
- * Where is there clear and easily accessible information to confirm what this difference will mean if the change is made, both financially and any changes to services?
- * Once details are available, how and where can residents make comments/raise objections or be part of the consultation process?

Many thanks,

Subject: Proposed expansion of Moulton Parish
Attachments: Moulton Parish Council CGR Response 250124.pdf (1.58 MB)

Dear West Northants Council:

I'm writing to express my full support for the proposed expansion of Moulton Parish to include Moulton Leys and parts of Overstone Leys. Please see the attached letter from the executive officer of Moulton Parish Council.

Regards

To: cgrconsultation<cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
Subject: Moulton Leys Boundary Changes

Good morning,

I am Anthony J Gibbs a representative and Chairman of Moulton Leys Residents Association. I am writing to you regarding the proposed boundary change to move Moulton Leys from Northampton Town Council into Moulton Parish Council. There is not one person that I have spoken to who agrees with this proposal and feels an affinity to the town of Northampton, and here are some of the reasons that they gave:-

When the moulton leys area was built, it was part of Northampton.

The nearest primary school is on Booth Lane.

The nearest Scout group is in Fernie Fields.

The nearest youth club is in Fernie Fields.

The nearest post office is in Churchill Avenue.

The nearest pharmacy is in Parklands, and people use Tesco for shopping.

The nearest newsagent/corner shop is next to the Lumbertubs pub, which is also our nearest pub.

The nearest allotments are in Parklands.

The nearest community center is Boothville Community Centre, which people attend for craft sessions, flower arranging classes, home-alone lunches, yoga, and dancing.

The Whyte Melville Bowls Club, which is at Fernie Fields, is attended by many.

People. Bezerk on Moulton Park is used regularly by residents and their children.

Weston Favell Center was a preferred shopping area. Morrisons is used by many residents from Moulton leys as it is very close by. Once Lidy1 builds its new store, it will be on the doorstep for the Moulton Leys residents.

Access to the Town Mayor was also important to people as there is a figurehead to contact.

Over the years, we've frequently used mayors at our events, and we appreciate having a civic head with over 800 years of lineage and history behind it

Fernie Fields allows the Residents

Association to hold their meetings there. They also allow us to provide a monthly coffee morning for the residents, giving them access to friendship within the community. Out of this comes a Christmas Lunch, which for some older residents may be the only Christmas meal outside the home that they have. Some residents volunteer there, helping with the sensory garden for children with disabilities.

As you can see from the above, the residents of Moulton Leys use and appreciate the facilities within Northampton.

New developments for Moulton Parish favour the other side of the village, which is further away from Moulton Leys and closer to Kettering Road, so I see no benefit for residents of Moulton Leys on their doorstep.

Yours faithfully

Anthony J Gibbs

Northampton Town Council CGR Phase 1 Consultation Response

Introduction

Northampton Town Council was created in 2021, following the decision to parish the unparished areas of Northampton. Within the former NBC area, three new Parish Councils were created, Kingsthorpe, Far Cotton and Delapre, and Northampton Town.

The ward boundaries for Northampton Town Council area followed those of the former Brough Council. When the Boundary Commission conducted their consultation as part of the WNC review, The Town Council stated that they wanted to retain the existing parish boundaries and wards citing the fact that the council was only 2 years old as a major factor. Another factor was the desire to see community areas that were recognised both by residents and as having historic importance was also cited. Unfortunately, the Boundary Commission did not agree with this and as legislation required that Parish Wards had to sit with principal council wards, all the parish ward boundaries were changed.

Moulton Leys

Part of the Boundary Commission review is a proposal that an area to the north of Northampton parish known as Moulton Leys, be moved into the Moulton Parish Council area.

The proposal to move Moulton Leys into Moulton Parish came as a surprise to many including the town council as there was no consultation either with the residents (as far as we can tell), or with the town council. The recommendation to change the boundary and the evidence behind this is not transparent, and we have been unable to find the evidence used to put forward this proposal.

This put the town council in a position where it seemed it had to contradict something that we had been informed was wanted, though who wanted it and the amount of support this had was unknown.

This led the Town Council to conduct its own consultation of residents of Moulton Leys in an attempt to get an understanding of what they thought and ultimately to find out if they did in fact want to move into Moulton parish area. The initial reaction to the survey was one of surprise as the general feedback intimated that residents did not know that this proposal had been put forward.

The survey looked to find out from residents ultimately if they supported this proposals or not, the reasons for this, whether they used facilities in Northampton or Moulton, whether they regarded themselves as Northampton citizens or Moulton citizens. The questions as detailed in the questionnaire are detailed below. As part of the consultation it was highlighted that the Band D average for Moulton Parish Council residents was considerably more than for those that lived within the NTC area.

Survey

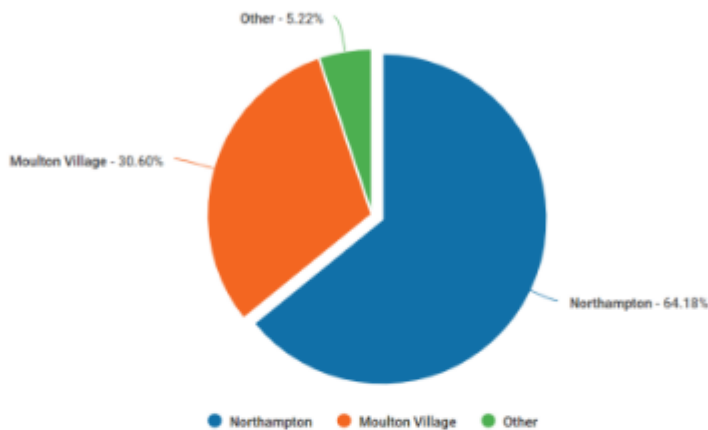
The Town Council made live a survey from 11th January 2024 to the 25th January 2025. The survey was available online and was promoted through the various social media channels. The aim of the survey was to establish whether there was in fact the support from Moulton Leys residents to join the Moulton Parish Council area. The financial implications of the proposal were highlighted, but the survey also wanted to find out where the residents of Moulton Leys identified themselves with. We asked that only residents of Moulton Leys complete the survey and asked them to detail the road on which they lived to add a level of verification that respondents were in fact those who lived on Moulton Leys.

At the time of the survey ending the survey had had : 137 completed responses.

The survey was widely shared on social media including Moulton village and Moulton Leys Facebook pages. Local councillors were also encouraged to share the page in their networks.

Q1.

As a resident of Moulton Leys do you identify yourself with



This question was asked to get a sense of identity from those responding to the survey. Anecdotally, some feedback had been received that both supported and contradicted the view as to whether Moulton Leys residents saw themselves as residents of Moulton or Northampton. Again, anecdotally some stated that there was a sense from Moulton village residents that Moulton Leys residents were not part of the village and were in fact Northampton residents. The former Borough Council boundary supported this as the NBC boundary to the north ended at Moulton with Moulton village being part of Daventry DC whilst Moulton Leys was in the former NBC area.

The data suggests that just under two thirds of residents of Moulton Leys identified themselves with Northampton. Just under one third with Moulton.

The survey asked for a basic explanation as to why the respondent had answered the way they did. A few of the responses are detailed below:

- *The village is the area around the one way system. Moulton Leys is part of Northampton based on location and infrastructure. Just as Overstone Leys would not be part of Overstone village.*
- *Moulton Villagers do not consider Moulton Leys residents to be part of their community*
- *Moulton Leys was always classed at not being part of Moulton. When we moved here over 30 years ago there was not guarantee we would get our children in Moulton School as Boothville School was closer and residents were classed as 'outsiders'*

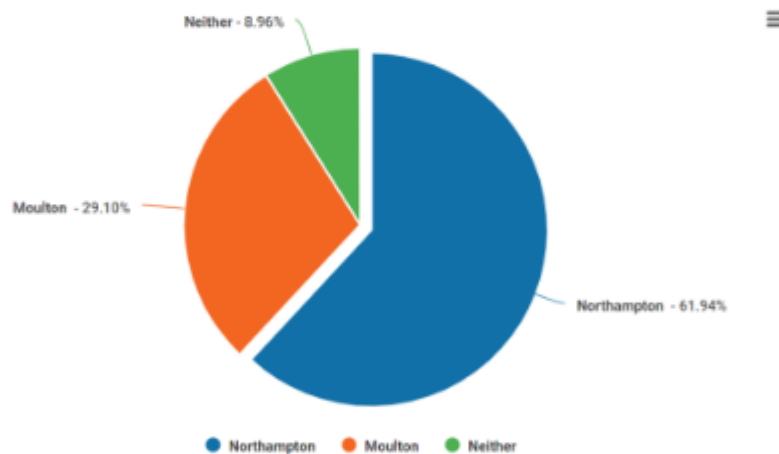
- *Having lived here for 31 years, Moulton Parish Council has made it clear that Moulton Leys is Northampton.*
- *We are more Northampton than Moulton*
- *Moulton village is very secular. They don't think of "us" as being part of Moulton - or at least Moulton village. I will tell people I live in Moulton, then immediately clarify that I mean Moulton Leys, not Moulton village.*

The perception that Moulton Village seems to not regard Moulton Leys as part of Moulton was a common theme, cited in many responses in different guises.

This leads us to conclude that from those who responded, the vast majority of Moulton Leys residents identify with Northampton.

Q2.

As a resident of Moulton Leys, where would you primarily go to access services? For example; shops, doctors, parks, leisure activities...



One of the main arguments highlighted for changing the boundary was that residents of Moulton Leys predominantly used the facilities in Moulton village. Whilst this is true to some of the respondents as you can see in the chart, this not the majority. Some of those who responded did say they accessed shops, doctors, pubs etc within Moulton Village, but almost double that number stated that they primarily went to Northampton town for these services. This seems to contradict the assertion that Moulton Leys residents are predominantly using services within the village.

Again, the survey asked for a brief explanation for the respondents answer. Some of the highlights are detailed below:

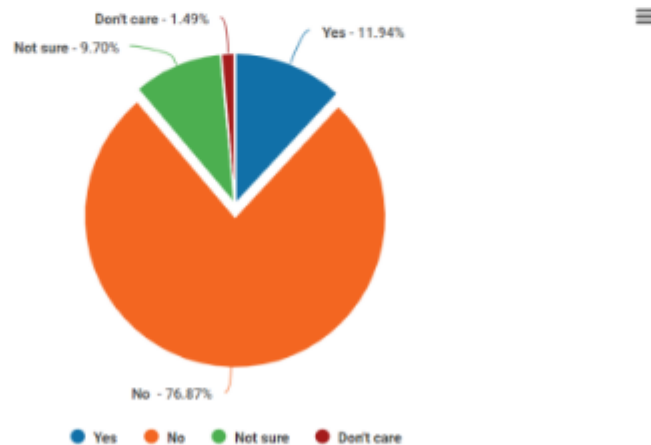
- *As I live on Cottingham Drive and work on the Headlands all of the facilities I access are in Northampton ie doctors, dentist, hairdressers, shops etc. I very rarely go into Moulton village and use none of the services.*

- *My doctor is at Thorplands Northampton. My grocery shopping is from Weston Favell. Abington Park is our choice of a decent park to visit*
- *Morrisons, tescos express, Thorpeville, weston favell and Riverside.*
- *Lumbertubs pub, bradlaugh fields*
- *Have never used the village doctors. The parking is not good for use of shops and it's a little too far to walk as we are not really within the village at all*
- *Other than the doctor's most things are in Northampton. The village just doesn't have enough*

Another point raised more broadly was that the town council did not provide any direct services to Moulton Leys residents. The point of this question was to highlight that whilst Moulton Leys itself had no direct Town Council services the residents predominantly accessed areas of the town that did. For example, the nearby Bradlaugh Fields has been a grant recipient from the town council to support their work as has Sport for Fitness based at Fernie Fields which also received a significant town council grant to support their work. Many Moulton Leys residents commented that the Northampton Parks were a major draw, whilst these again are not town council owned, the town council provides and supports a significant number of enhancements and events in the parks from Bands in the Park, to Diwali and the Balloon Festival. The Town Council also enhances the parks offering with wellbeing walks.

Q3.

As a resident of Moulton Leys, do you support the proposal to move this area from the Northampton Town Council area to Moulton Parish Council area?



The aim of this question was ultimately to gauge support for the proposal to move Moulton Leys into Moulton Parish Council. We were informed that there was a want from Moulton Leys residents to move from Northampton Town to Moulton Parish.

Our findings illustrate that there is massive support to retain the current boundary and keep Moulton Leys within Northampton Town Council area. Over 75% of respondents do not support the proposal, just under 12% do support it.

The reasoning for this is encapsulated in many of the responses detailed previously. Also, the material consideration that moving boundaries may cost the council tax payer a considerable amount of money, something that we would speculate was not explained until now, has been highlighted as a major factor.

The survey asked for a brief explanation as to their response. Some of them are detailed below:

- *I would not consider Moulton Leys to be part of the Parish. This just sounds like a land-grab on their part. Do they want Moulton Park too...?!*
- *As I use none of the services and rarely go into Moulton itself I fail to see how this would benefit me. I live on my own and on a low income so the additional charges would have a major impact on me.*
- *Additional cost but no incentives*
- *I do not use the services so will not benefit from the change. I am happy to stay with Northampton Town Council.*
- *Why should we pay more council tax for no benefit. Cannot understand why boundaries need to be changed.*
- *The cost. I can't see anything that tells me we would be served better by the change or gives any good reason for it.*
- *absolutely not, I bought a house in Northampton, because I wanted to live there.*
- *There doesnt seem to be any good reason to change this. What benefits would the residents of moulton leys have for this change?? The extortionate change in council fees certainly doesnt seem a positive reason for me to agree to it.*
- *Moulton Leys is not Moulton Village. It never has been. Moulton village is the historic area with its architecture, villing culture and village traditions. Moulton Leys is a town expansion from the 1970s. Don't change things now, just because you want to get more money out of people!*
- *I live in Northampton not Daventry or Moulton*
- *As previous, the people from the village tend to look down their noses at people who are "outside". I wouldn't want them and their small minded opinions having more impact on the decisions made in my local area.*

A significant theme across all the answers to all the questions is that of Northampton and having civic pride in coming from Northampton. Northampton is rich in civic tradition and heritage and many of the comments stated that they regarded themselves as being from Northampton. The Town Council prides itself on the civic history of the town and maintaining this for another 800 years. In addition, one of the Town Council's priorities is to celebrate the heritage of the town which it does through heritage trails and events like Oak Apple Day.

Q4:

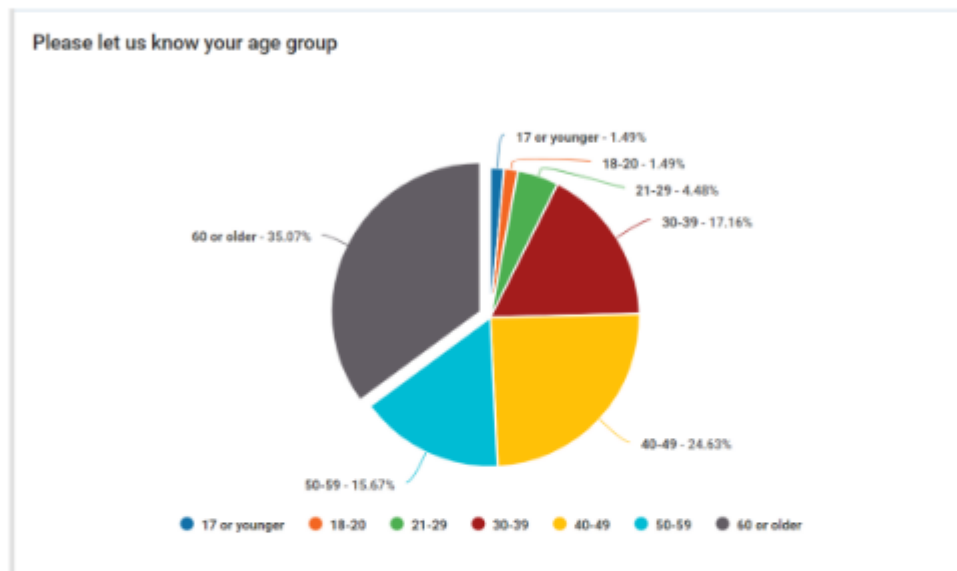
As part of the verification we asked respondents to detail on which road they lived.

A summary of the roads listed is as follows:

West Leys Court
East Leys Court

Greenfinch Drive
Gayhurst Close
Northampton Lane South
Cottingham Drive
Underbank Lane
Lowick Court
White Doe Drive

Q5.



Whilst this question does not impact on the overall response, the age demographics of who responded was interesting. The Town Council did not want to collect personal data (names, DOB etc), for data protection requirements and it was felt that this kind of information was not required.

Conclusion

The survey illustrates that this proposal does not appear to have the support of Moulton Leys residents. The overwhelming majority of Moulton Leys residents want to remain in the boundary of Northampton Town for reasons that are detailed previously. Perhaps the major reason is financial, however, beyond the financial implications, there is a clear view that the majority of residents of Moulton Leys do not regard themselves as Moulton Village citizens. As highlighted previously, in order to retain the boundary, the Town Council have had to conduct its own consultation, when it is not clear if a consultation was held in order to propose the change, or if there was a want to change the boundary what this looked like. The process and/or threshold for making these proposals should be clear and transparent from the start as there are significant consequences for residents and councils alike.

Accordingly, we would ask that officers recommend that Moulton Leys does not transfer to Moulton parish council. There is clear evidence to show that this is not wanted by residents of Moulton Leys.

Our understanding is that this will result in Moulton Leys becoming a ward on its own. The Town Council is keen to consider more cllrs given the size and population that we cover so this would be supported. The creation of a ward for Moulton Leys would help us address the needs of this area in a greater way and consider how we can invest or expand existing projects such as Northampton in Bloom.

Tollgate Close

The Town Council would ask that the CGR considers moving the boundary of Semilong Ward to incorporate the road known as Tollgate Close which currently sits within the Kingsthorpe Parish area. This would ensure a cleaner boundary that incorporated the area up to Mill Lane. However, it is understood that we have not undertaken a consultation on this and therefore could be dismissed.

Number of Cllrs

The Town Council would ask that the CGR considers the number of councillors that NTC has with the consideration of adding more members.

The Town Council currently has 25 councillors and is keen to further add to this. The size of Northampton town council (approximately 130,000 electorate) is by the far the biggest in the country. The burden that this places on cllrs is significant and we would ask that the review considered further councillors in the most densely populated wards.

It is understood that a conversation may need to begin on this and we would appreciate the CGR's feedback on how we can go about doing this.

Weston Favell village

It is understood that a movement to consider making Weston Favell a separate parish has been put forward, though again the evidence for this is not clear. It is understood that Weston Favell Residents Association dismissed this idea during the initial CGR. The Town Council provides allotments in Weston Favell as well as grants, bloom and we are looking at the provision of a VAS sign. The Town Council would like to retain Weston Favel within its boundary.

To: cgrconsultation@westnorthants.gov.uk>
CC: clerk@thorpemandervillepc.org.uk
Subject: Submission regarding representation level

At our last Council Meeting, Thorpe Manderville Parish Council agreed to make a formal submission to the Community Governance Review regarding the maximum size of our Council.

Although Thorpe Manderville is amongst the smallest Parish Councils in West Northants, our current maximum representation of five councillors does give us problems. This is not because of workload amongst the existing councillors but rather the difficulty of maintaining a quorum due to the minimum stipulated attendance of three councillors. Especially during the summer this can create an issue. With two councillors often unavailable due to holidays it only takes one further non-attendance for us to be inoperative.

A further factor is that we would like to see wider representation on the council to include employed persons, not just those who have retired. We have achieved this with one councillor, but work commitments often prevent his attendance, sometimes at the last minute, creating quorum difficulties. An increase in councillor numbers would leave us less exposed to this problem.