

Committee:	Governance, Audit and Performance Committee	Date:	Thursday, 15 November 2018
Title:	Community Governance Review - final reportRecommendations		
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Summary

1. The Committee agreed at its meeting on 26 July 2018 to undertake a community governance review, of targeted scope, in relation to the parishes of Little Easton, Great Dunmow North ward, and Aythorpe Roding. The Committee is asked to approve final recommendations as follows.

Recommendations

2. That the Committee concludes the community governance review which commenced on 26 July 2018, publicises and gives effect by Order to the following recommendations made in the review:
 - a. That the existing parish boundary between the parishes of Little Easton parish and Great Dunmow parish, which is shown with a broken line on the map attached to the report, be altered as indicated on the map by a red line, so that the area hatched pink comprising the development known as Sector 4, be transferred from the parish of Little Easton to the parish of Great Dunmow;
 - b. That the consent of the Local Government Boundary Commission and Electoral Commission be sought to make a consequential changes Order to give effect to alterations to align the boundary of the district ward and county division with the modified parish boundary.
 - c. In respect of the electoral arrangements which apply to the parish of Great Dunmow, to increase the number of the parish councillors for the North ward by two.
 - d. In respect of the electoral arrangements which apply to the parish of Little Easton, to make no change in the number of the parish councillors.
 - e. In respect of the electoral arrangements review for the parish of Aythorpe Roding, to increase the number of parish councillors by one.

Financial Implications

3. There are no financial implications other than officer time and printing costs.

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.
 - a. Requests submitted to the Council from the parish councils referred to above
 - b. Minutes of Council 23 February 2013
 - c. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) guidance "Guidance on community governance reviews"
 - d. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
 - e. The Uttlesford (Electoral Changes) Order 2014
 - f. Responses to the community governance review consultation 2018
- 5.

Impact

- 6.

Communication/Consultation	Consultation has taken place with District and County Councillors, Essex County Council, the Essex Association of Local Councils, the public and the parish councils of Great Dunmow and Little Easton and Aythorpe Roding.
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	Thaxted and the Eastons, Great Dunmow, High Easter & The Rodings
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

7. The Committee agreed at its meeting on 26 July 2018 to undertake a community governance review, of limited scope, in relation to the parishes of Little Easton, Great Dunmow North ward, and Aythorpe Roding. Initial consultation on draft proposals took place. Further proposals, which took into account those submissions, were approved by the Committee at an extraordinary meeting on 9 October 2018. As required by the terms of reference of the review, a second stage of consultation took place, to enable representations to be received on the further proposals. The second consultation concluded on 26 October 2018. The recommendations publicised in relation to that second stage consultation have not changed as a result of any representations received, and are now brought to the Committee for final approval.
8. Consultation on the proposals took place in accordance with the terms of reference of the review. Those consulted included District and County Councillors, Essex Association of Local Councils and Essex County Council. All representations received are listed in the table at Appendix A. In summary, a small number of representations, confirming agreement to the proposals, have been received from District Ward Members, one of whom is also a County Councillor. No submissions have been received from officers at Essex County Council or the Essex Association of Local Councils, although they were included in the consultation. Correspondence with the Clerks to Little Easton Great Dunmow Town Council took place regarding the proposals for the parish boundary modification, in that a revised map with improved detail was circulated to those councils during the Stage 1 consultation. Both parish councils confirmed acceptance of the proposals based on the revised map.
9. Further detailed correspondence and verbal discussion has taken place with the Clerk to Great Dunmow Town Council in relation to the electoral arrangements which have been proposed, to increase by two the number of town councillors for the North Ward, as a slight imbalance between the North and South Ward is forecast to occur. However the imbalance is not perceived to be significant. The ability of the Town Council to conduct its business with sufficient numbers of elected representatives, without becoming too unwieldy, is considered to be an important factor in proposing any change to the existing electoral arrangements. Following consideration of further advice given, Great Dunmow Town Council have confirmed their wish to increase the number of parish councillors to be elected to the North ward by two.
10. No submissions have been received from Aythorpe Roding Parish Council other than the initial request to increase the representation for that parish.
11. Stage 2 consultation representations which have been received are included at Appendix A. The draft Order to give effect to the recommendations is attached at Appendix B. The map referred to in the Order reflects the map upon which the final stages of the consultation took place, as previously published with the report to the Committee on 9 October 2018. It is attached as Appendix C.

Risk Analysis

12.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
2 That identities and interests of the local community in the area are not reflected, and that community governance is not effective or convenient	2	2	To conduct a limited community governance review in time to take effect for the ordinary local elections in May 2019.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.