Wycombe District Council Community Governance Review (CGR) Terms of Reference

Boundary Change between Lacey Green and Bledlow cum Saunderton

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

Introduction

On 16 July 2018 at the Full Council meeting it was resolved to conduct a Community Governance Review of the Boundary between Lacey Green and Bledlow cum Saunderton.

In undertaking the review, the council will be guided by part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the relevant parts of the Local Government Act 1972, Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued in accordance with section 100(4) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in March 2010, and the following regulations which guide, in particular, consequential matters arising from the review: Local Government (Parished and Parish Councils) (England) Regulations 2008 (SI2008/625); Local Government Finance (New Parishes) Regulations 2008 (SI2008/626).

The terms of Reference document (ToR)

Section 81 of the Local government and Public involvement in Health Act 2007 requires the council to publish a Terms of Reference document for a Community Governance Review. This document is published to meet that requirement.

The terms of reference of any Review will be published on the Council's website (www.wycombe.gov.uk) and will be available to view at the Councils main offices Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BB.

Why is the Council Undertaking the Review?

A request from Lacey Green parish, two households and a land owner within the parish came to the election office requesting that part of the boundary between Lacey Green and Bledlow cum Saunderton be moved so that three properties would be located within the parish or Bledlow cum Saunderton rather than in Lacey Green. The reason for the request was that the homeowners do not feel a connection with Lacey Green parish but do with Bledlow cum Saunderton. They feel that the Wycombe Road (A4010) acts as a barrier between them and Lacey Green.

The aims of the review, the legislation that guides and some of the policies the Council considers important in the review are set out in this document. The council will need to take account of the view of the local people when coming to its recommendations in this review

The council recognises that the development of strong, sustainable communities depend on residents active participation in decision making and making a positive contribution to improving the place where they live. There is a commitment from the council to engage effectively with the

Communities it serves and to enable local people to contribute meaningfully in decisions that affect their lives, where all people feel able to take an active part in influencing service delivery.

What is a CGR?

A CGR provides the opportunity to remove unsuitable boundaries and ensure that boundaries reflect local identities and facilitate effective and convenient local government. A Review also offer the opportunity to consider the future of what may have become redundant or declining parishes, often the result of an insufficient number of local electors within the area who are willing to serve on a parish council.

A CGR is a review of the whole or part of the districts area to consider one or more of the following.

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes;
- The naming of parishes and the style of new parishes;
- The electoral arrangements for parishes (the ordinary year of election; council size; the number of councillors to be elected to the council , and parish warding), and
- Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes.

Who undertakes the review?

Wycombe district council will be undertaking the review. A decision to carry out the review was made at the Full Council meeting on 16 July 2018. The district will have one year to complete the review. A full consultation will take place with parishes, ward members and local residents as part of the review. This will be conduct by electoral services team. The small size of the consultation means that no other departments are involved.

Consultation

As the possible boundary change will only effect a few houses the consultation will be minimal. The residents of three properties affected will be contacted as well as the parish Councillors of Lacey Green and Bledlow cum Saunderton and the district councillors of Lacey Green, Speen & the Hampdens and Bledlow & Bradenham, the district areas which the parishes fall under.

All the views and responses received will be considered by the council. We will then publish a final proposals and the reasons behind them.

The District Council will:

- Publish information on the councils website
- Inform and consult the parish councils involved, parish cllr and district cllr
- Take into account any representations received in connection with the review
- Inform the Local Government Boundary Commission of England of the commencement of the CGR and keep them informed.

By law a CGR must be concluded within a twelve month period. The twelve months begin when the district council publishes its terms of reference and is concluded when the district council makes its final decision on the proposals in the CGR

Timetable for the review

Stage	Action	Timescale
Commencement	Terms of reference published	Oct 2018
First Consultation Period	Initial submissions are invited	Oct 2018
Regs & Appeal Committee Consider recommendations	Consideration of submissions received – Final recommendations are prepared to Full Council	Nov 2018
Full Council Considers recommendations	Full Council considers the recommendations from Regs & appeals Committee	Dec 2018
Reorganisation of Order	Council resolves to make a reorganisation order	Dec 2018
Implementation		Jan 2019

How to submit your views

You can submit your views by email to matt.rae@wycombe.gov.uk or in writing to:

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High Wycombe
HP11 1BB