

Local Plan and CGR working group

DRAFT: Issues for consideration in a CGR

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This document is presented alongside a request from Bridgnorth Town Council for a review of Governance arrangements of the Town and its adjacent parishes.
- 1.2. It covers issues that we believe should be considered by a Community Governance Review.
- 1.3. The list of issues is not necessarily complete and the potential solutions proposed will be reviewed by Bridgnorth Town Council in light of subsequent proposals published as part of the review of the Local Plan and the Green Belt review.

2. Town and Parish boundaries

- 2.1. As per our previous application for a Community Governance Review (CGR), we propose that Bridgnorth Town and Tasley Parish be merged.
- 2.2. It is understood that Shropshire Council are now looking at future development options for the county, including potential sites in the Bridgnorth area. One possible development site could be around the Hobbins, Russell Close, and Stanmore industrial Estate. If Shropshire Council were to propose developments in this area, then we would recommend that a CGR consider transferring this area, together with the land between it and the Bridgnorth Town boundary, from Worfield Parish to Bridgnorth Town.
- 2.3. This review should include consideration of potential development sites for the next 30 to 50 years, and so we recommend that consideration be given to transferring the southern portion of Astley Abbots Parish adjacent to the Bridgnorth Town boundary, from Astley Abbots Parish to Bridgnorth.

3. Bridgnorth Town electoral arrangements

- 3.1. Bridgnorth Town Council considers that 16 councillors are sufficient to represent the enlarged parish. The current arrangement of 4 wards, each with four councillors, seems a good approach that would meet the town's needs. The ward boundaries will need to be reviewed.
- 3.2. The review will need to consider Shropshire Council electoral representation. It may be possible to align Shropshire Council ward boundaries with the revised ward boundaries within Bridgnorth..