



Committee and date

Council

22 September 2016

10.00 a.m.

Item No

16

Public

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

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1.0 Summary

1.1 The Council is requested to approve the recommendations of its Community Governance Working Party in respect of the reviews recently undertaken in the following Parishes, following publication of the Final Proposals documents, which are attached:

- 1.1.1 Abdon/Heath;
- 1.1.2 Adderley/Market Drayton/Moreton Say
- 1.1.3 Albrighton;
- 1.1.4 Wem Rural; and
- 1.1.5 Wroxeter and Uppington

1.2 This work was undertaken by a Working Party comprising Councillors Butler, (Chairman), Davenport, Evans, Mellings, Mosley, Mrs Shingleton, Turner.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Council approves the recommendations of the Community Governance Working Party in respect of the following Parishes:

- 2.1.1 Abdon/Heath
- 2.1.2 Adderley/Market Drayton/Moreton Say
- 2.1.3 Albrighton;
- 2.1.4 Wem Rural; and
- 2.1.5 Wroxeter and Uppington

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

3.1 The recommendations in this report have no impact on the safeguarding arrangements for children and vulnerable adults. Shropshire Council is required to keep the electoral arrangements of Parishes in its area under review. The recommendations in this report do not have an adverse impact

on human rights or equalities. When conducting a review, the Council is required to have regard to the identities and interests of the community in the area and is required to consult with local government electors in the area under review and any other person or body which, in the opinion of the Council, might have an interest in the review.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The cost of making the reorganisation orders will be borne by Shropshire Council and will be limited to officer time. There is no power to reclaim these costs from the Town/Parish Councils.

5.0 The Parishes of Abdon and Heath

- 5.1 The Council gave public notice of the Community Governance Review of the Parishes of Abdon and Heath in January 2016 and also published the terms of reference for that review. This was in response to a request from the Parish Council to create a new Parish by amalgamating the separate Parishes of Abdon and Heath.
- 5.2 Currently, the Parishes have a combined Council consisting of three members for the Parish of Abdon and two for the Parish of Heath.
- 5.3 The Community Governance Working Party considers that a new Parish without wards represented by a Parish Council made up of five members can provide for effective and convenient community governance for the whole of the Abdon and Heath Parish areas.
- 5.4 The new Parish would be known as the Parish of Abdon and Heath and the Parish Council has suggested that the new Parish should have a Parish Council consisting of 5 members.
- 5.5 S79 of the 2007 Act provides authority for Shropshire Council to consider and, if appropriate, to make an order confirming such changes to the electoral arrangements of a Parish or Parishes.
- 5.6 Councillor Cecelia Motley, Shropshire Councillor for the division in which the Parish is situated, supports the proposed change.

6.0 The Parishes of Adderley, Market Drayton and Moreton Say

- 61 The Council gave public notice of the Community Governance Review of the Parishes of Adderley, Market Drayton and Moreton Say in January 2016 and also published the terms of reference for that review. This was in response to a request from the Market Drayton Town Council to reduce the number of Town Councillors and to extend the boundaries of the Parish into the Parishes of Adderley and Moreton Say.

- 6.2 Currently, Market Drayton Town Council has 17 Councillors spread over three wards. The Town Council requested that consideration be given to reducing that number to 12.
- 6.3 The Community Governance Working Party considers that a reduction in the number of Councillors to 12 can provide for effective and convenient community governance for the Parish of Market Drayton spread over the existing 3 wards as follows:
- 6.3.1 Market Drayton South – 3 Councillors
 - 6.3.2 Market Drayton East – 3 Councillors
 - 6.3.3 Market Drayton North – 6 Councillors
- 6.4 The Community Governance Working Party was not provided with any evidence to support extending the boundary of the Parish of Market Drayton in the manner that had been suggested. Objections had been made to the request. Consequently, members of the Working Group felt unable to agree to those changes and recommends that no change is made to the boundaries at this stage.
- 6.5 S79 of the 2007 Act provides authority for Shropshire Council to consider and, if appropriate, to make an order confirming such changes to the electoral arrangements of a Parish or Parishes.
- 6.4 Councillors Roger Hughes and David Minnery, Shropshire Councillors for the Market Drayton West division within the Parish of Market Drayton and Councillor John Cadwallader, Shropshire Councillor for the Market Drayton East division, part of which is within the Parish of Market Drayton, support the proposal to reduce the number of Town Councillors.
- 6.5 Councillor Paul Wynn, Shropshire Councillor for the division adjacent to the Parish of Market Drayton and in which the Parishes of Adderley and Moreton Say which would have been affected by the proposals are situated, supports the proposal to not alter the boundaries.

7.0 The Parish of Albrighton

- 7.1 The Council gave public notice of the Community Governance Review of the Parish of Albrighton in January 2016 and also published the terms of reference for that review. This was in response to a request from the Parish Council seeking the discontinuance of the present warding arrangements. The Parish Council is currently separated into two wards, the North Ward and the South Ward.
- 7.2 The Parish Council has not requested that there be any other change to the electoral arrangements.
- 7.3 The Community Governance Working Party considers that a Parish Council made up of 15 Councillors without wards can provide for effective and convenient community governance for the whole of the Parish of Albrighton.

- 7.3 S79 of the 2007 Act provides authority for Shropshire Council to consider and, if appropriate, to make an order confirming such changes to the electoral arrangements of a Parish Council.
- 7.4 Councillor Malcolm Pate, Shropshire Councillor for the division in which the Parish is situated, supports the proposed change.

8.0 The Parish of Wem Rural

- 8.1 The Council gave public notice of the Community Governance Review of the Parish of Wem Rural in January 2016 and also published the terms of reference for that review. This was in response to a request from the Parish Council seeking to rename the “Wem” ward because of the confusion which is often caused due to its proximity to the Parish of Wem, which is adjacent to the Parish of Wem Rural
- 8.2 The Parish Council has not requested that there be any other change to the electoral arrangements.
- 8.3 The Community Governance Working Party considers that the Wem ward of the Parish Council should be renamed the “Roden” ward in order to assist in the effective and convenient community governance for the whole of the Parish of Wem Rural.
- 8.3 S79 of the 2007 Act provides authority for Shropshire Council to consider and, if appropriate, to make an order confirming such changes to the electoral arrangements of a Parish Council.
- 8.4 Councillor Chris Mellings, Shropshire Councillor for the division in which the Parish is situated, supports the proposal to change the name of the ward.
- 8.5 Councillor Pauline Dee, Shropshire Councillor for the division in which the Parish is situated, supports the proposed change.

9.0 The Parish of Wroxeter and Uppington

- 9.1 The Council gave public notice of the Community Governance Review of the Parish of Wroxeter and Uppington in January 2016 and also published the terms of reference for that review. This was in response to a request from the Parish Council to reduce the number of Parish Councillors from 11 to 9.
- 9.2 The Parish Council has not requested that there be any other change to the electoral arrangements.
- 9.3 The Community Governance Working Party considers that the number of Councillors for the Parish of Wroxeter and Uppington should be reduced. It considers that 9 Councillors for the Parish is still too many and that by reducing the number of Parish Councillors to 7, effective and convenient

community governance for the whole of the Parish of Wroxeter and Uppington would be provided.

- 10.3 S79 of the 2007 Act provides authority for Shropshire Council to consider and, if appropriate, to make an order confirming such changes to the electoral arrangements of a Parish Council.
- 10.4 Councillor Claire Wild, Shropshire Councillor for the division in which the Parish is situated, supports the proposed change.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Cabinet Member

Malcolm Pate

Local Member

John Cadwallader, Pauline Dee, Roger Hughes, Chris Mellings, David Minnery, Cecelia Motley, Malcolm Pate, Claire Wild, Brian Williams and Paul Wynn.

Appendices

None