Central Bedfordshire

"Your voice matters"

Community Governance Review

7 July 2025 – 1 September 2025

Stage 1 Consultation Results

Find out more at
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/consultations

Contents

Purpose of consultation

Local authorities are required, by Central Government, to undertake a review of local governance arrangements every 10 - 15 years; we are now reviewing Town and Parish Council arrangements within Central Bedfordshire. This involves looking at how the community is represented by town or parish councils, through consideration of; existing parish boundaries, the number of councillors a parish has, names of parishes and other factors.

During Stage One of the review we are seeking feedback on what works well and what could be improved in order to shape recommendations for possible changes.

The consultation process

The Stage One consultation ran from 7 July 2025 to 1 September 2025. Local residents, town and parish councils and stakeholders were encouraged to comment on the review. Paper response forms were also provided on request. The consultation ran for a period of 8 weeks.

Stage Two, which will consider the findings and responses from this consultation, will follow later this year.

Activities included:

- E-bulletin
  - E-mail 1 – sent to 32,841 with a 52.41% open rate
  - E-mail 2 – sent to 22,782 with an 53.56% open rate
- Social media
- 24 posts with 131,147 impressions and 2.42% engagement rate
  - Facebook – 6 posts with 13 reactions, 16 comments and 19 shares
  - Twitter/X - 6 posts with 42 engagements
  - Instagram 6 posts with 8 engagements
  - LinkedIn 6 posts with 28 reactions, 2 comments and 10 shares

*engagement is the number of interactions your content received from users - likes, comments, shares, saves, etc.

We received letters from Biggleswade Town Council, Eaton Bray Parish Council, Kensworth Parish Council, Joint Cllrs for Leighton-Linslade Town Council, and from Northill Parish Council, these have been included in full in the Appendix to this report.

Feedback on the proposals

In total, 357 responses were received for this survey.

How they accessed the questionnaire:

- 182 (51%) respondents accessed the questionnaire through a pc/laptop

- 148 (41%) respondents accessed the questionnaire through the mobile version
- 27 (8%) respondents accessed the questionnaire through the tablet version

To make sense of the feedback received, we have employed two types of analysis. We have looked at the headline quantitative measures, followed by coding of the free text comments to help understand the sentiment behind respondents' agreement or disagreement with the order. The codes we generated identified frequently mentioned comments and concerns. The findings of the survey are set out in the next section of this report.

When summarising these survey findings in other reports please ensure that the findings of this report are quoted accurately, and that a link to this report is provided.

Please note, all quotes are shown as received, so may contain spelling mistakes, and percentages shown in the charts may not total 100% due to rounding.

Summary of findings

Responses were received for 66 parishes

We also received separate letters from the following:

- **1.Northill Parish Council**
- **2.Kensworth Parish Council**
- **3.Joint Cllrs Leighton Linslade**
- **4.Biggleswade Town Council**
- **5.Eaton Bray Parish Council**
- **6.Stotfold Town Council**

No responses were received for the following:

Astwick, Battlesden, Brogborough, Chalton, Edworth, Eyeworth, Hulcote and Salford, Millbrook, Milton Bryan, Old Warden, Potsgrove, Southill (Broom), Southill (Stanford), Sundon, Tilsworth.

Parish reflecting the local community with a shared identity: 221 respondents said that they believed the parish reflected the local community to either a great extent or very great extent. 85 respondents to a moderate extent and 45 to either a low extent or very low extent. 11 respondents said they didn't know.

Current boundary: 281 respondents said that they were happy with their parishes current boundary. 64 respondents were not happy, 24 respondents replied that they were unsure.

Current name of the parish: 340 respondents said that they were happy with the current name of their parish. 28 respondents were not happy with the current name of their parish.

Number of councillors in parish council: 238 respondents said that they were happy with the current number of councillors in their parish council, 32 believing that the numbers should

increase, 23 believing that the number should be reduced. 76 respondents said they were not sure.

Division of local parish into parish wards: 224 respondents said that the local parish shouldn't be divided into parish wards. 26 respondents said that the local parish should be divided into parish wards and 112 said that this was not applicable to their local parish.

Ward change to local parish (if warded): 187 respondents said no they shouldn't be changed. 30 saying yes.

Ward boundary removal to local parish (if warded): 194 respondents said no, with 22 saying yes.

Number of councillors change for local parish (if warded): 178 respondents said no, with 36 saying yes.

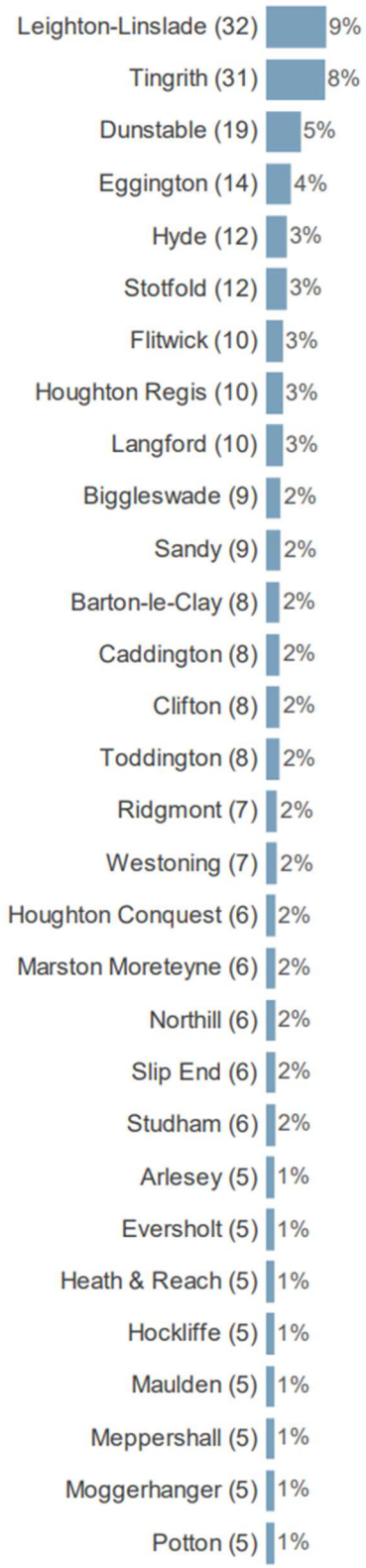
The biggest number of respondents were those aged 65-74. This group accounted for 30% of respondents, compared to 12% of all Central Bedfordshire residents (aged 16+). 75+and 55-64 were overrepresented with 23% versus 11% and 21% versus 16% respectively compared to the population of Central Bedfordshire. 45-54 (11% versus 16%), 35-44 (11% versus 16%), and 25-34 (3% versus 16%) were all underrepresented versus the Central Bedfordshire population figure, 39 respondents chose not to answer this question.

No responses were received from 18-24 year olds age group or under 16 age groups. 16-17 year olds were underrepresented with 0% (1) versus 3%.

Respondents who said they have a disability were underrepresented with 10% versus the Central Bedfordshire population percentage of 15%.

Full consultation responses

Numbers of responses for each parish were as follows:

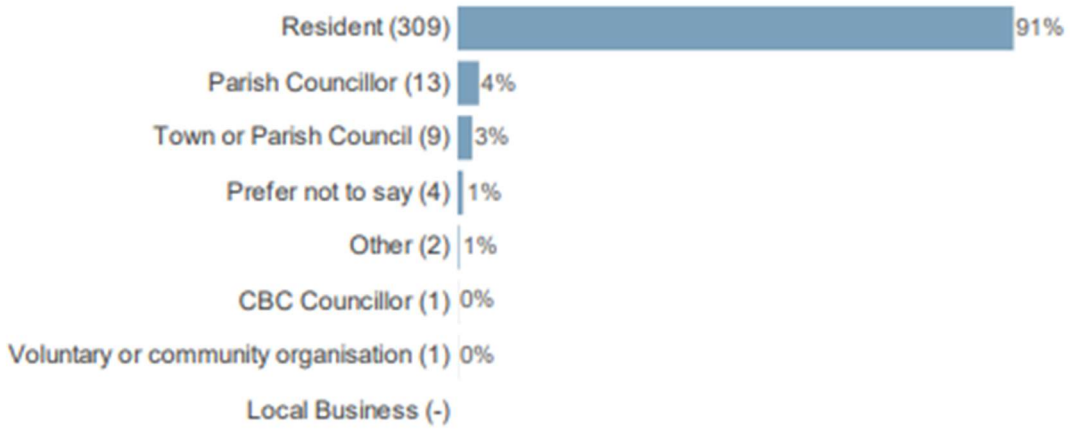


Silsoe (5), Totternhoe (5), Dunton (4), Flitton & Greenfield (4), Ampthill (3), Aspley Guise (3), Billington (3), Campton & Chicksands (3), Harlington (3), Henlow (3), Husborne Crawley (3),

Shillington (3), Stanbridge (3), Stondon (3), Sutton (3), Aspley Heath (2), Clophill (2), Everton (2), Fairfield (2), Pulloxhill (2), Steppingley (2), Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley (2)

Blunham (1), Chalgrave (1), Eaton Bray (1), Gravenhurst (1), Haynes (1), Kensworth (1), Lidlington (1), Southill (South Ward) (1), Streatley (1), Tempsford (1), Whipsnade (1), Woburn (1),

Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

Moggerhanger (2), Totternhoe (2), Dunstable South Ward (1), Flitwick (1), Marston Moreteyne (1), Heath and Reach (1), Stondon (1), Shillington (1), Barton-le-Clay (1), Northill (1), Ridgmont (1)

If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

Flitwick (1), Barton-le-Clay Parish Council (1), Sutton Parish Council (1), Caddington Parish Council (1), Studham Parish Council (1), Whipsnade PC (1), Silsoe PC (1), Stotfold Town Council (1), Ridgmont (1)

If voluntary or community organisation, please specify:

St Andrews church

If other, please specify:

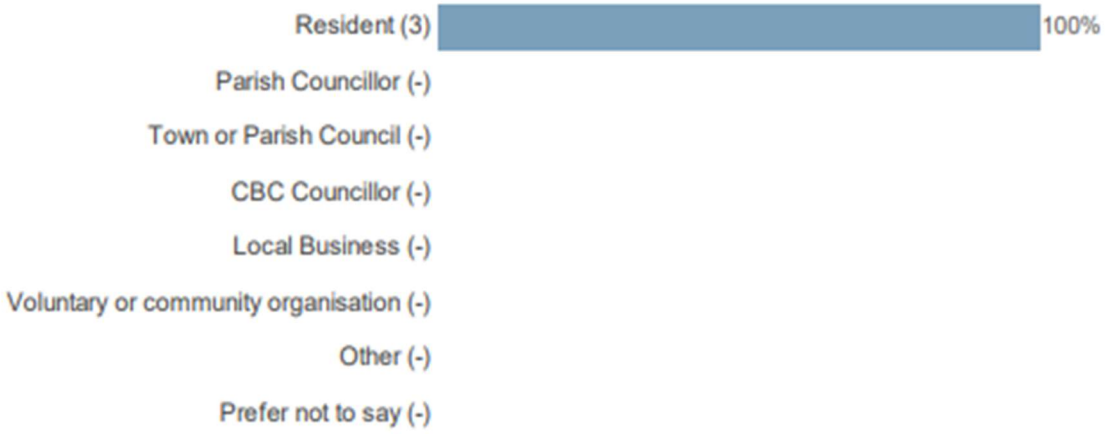
Neighbourhood Watch Youth Council Representative for Bedfordshire, living in Marston Moreteyne. Also Youth Council member of the Marston Moreteyne Youth Council

1. Ampthill 3 responses

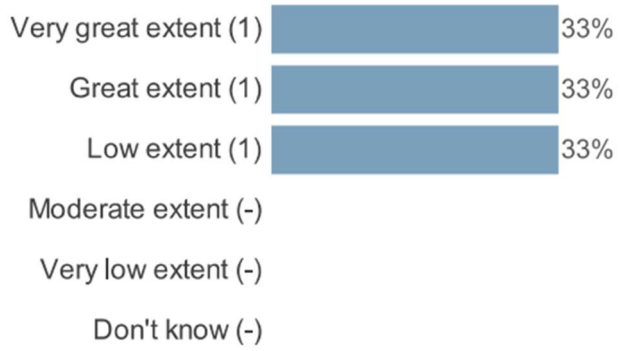
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

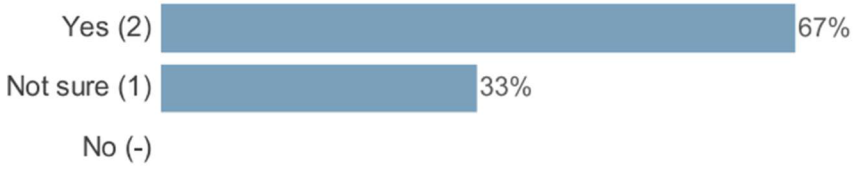
Are you responding as: (please select one)



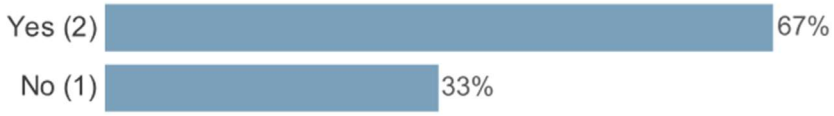
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



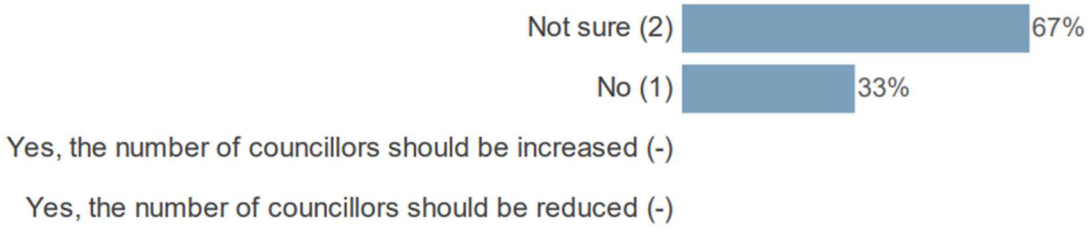
Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?



If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"It seems to focus on the ambitions of the TC with little community engagement, responsive rather than proactive with less focus on fixing daily issues which are framed either politically or as an issue for CBC to resolve with limited regulatory requirements for CBC and no budget, it would seem issues such as parking, school and commuted focused issues arising from traffic etc, local issues with landscaping/green spaces, provision of bins etc. are framed as not within the TCs interests to proactively challenge or support CBC in tackling, there ar eno local strategies or plans demonstrating priority areas of interest or change (like neighbourhood plans, etc.) for the community to actively engage with or provide transparency where the focus of the local TC lie."

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

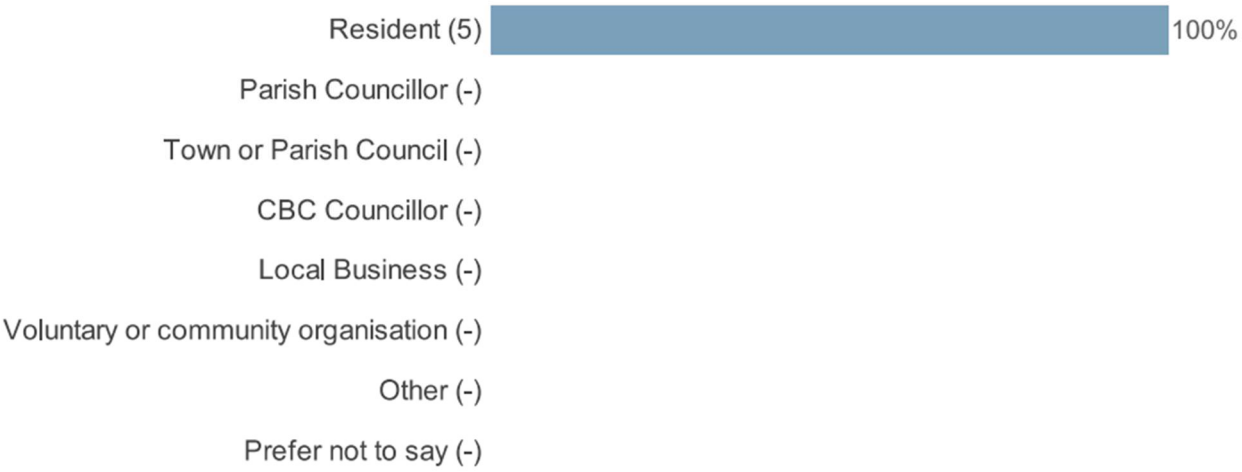
"It is unclear to residents how they conduct the delivery of the community's interests"

2. Arlesey 5 responses

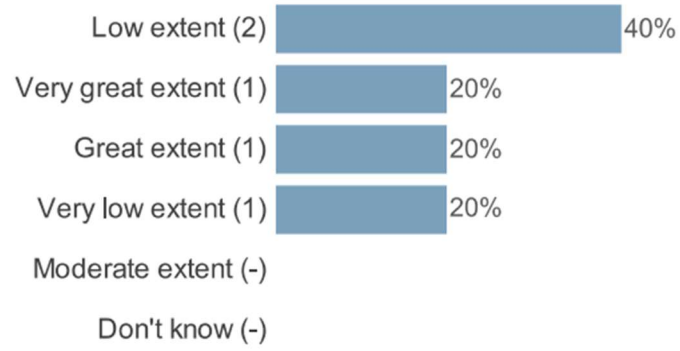
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

Following debate of the upcoming community governance review during a meeting of Arlesey town council held on 15 April 2025 the council passed a resolution to formally request that the total number of council seats be increased to 9.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



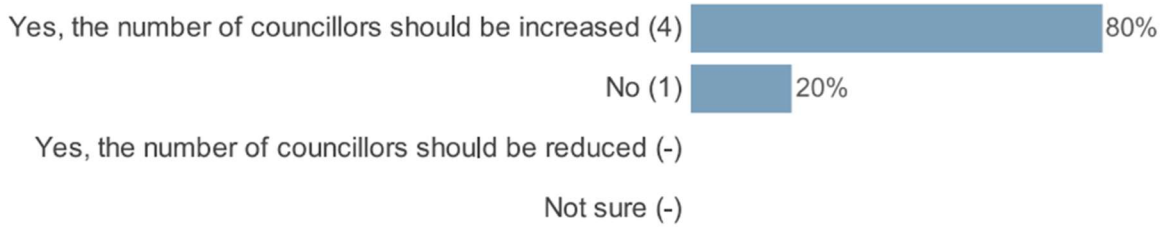
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

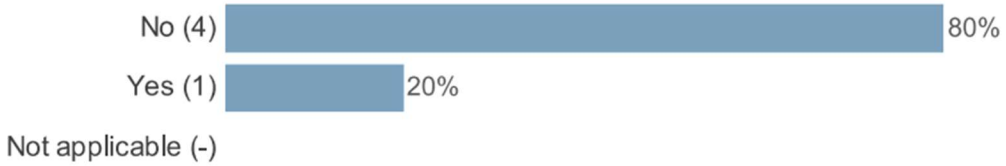
"10"

"9. The Council needs more councillors to help share the admin load, and provide a more diverse representation of the community. If we dont get candidates, at least we havent precluded possible interest."

"The council does very little for the community, beyond statutory obligations. More councillors may help them take on more projects, even one project would be a start"

"25"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



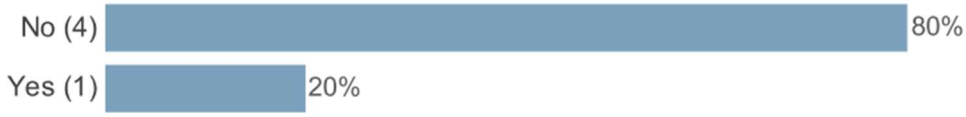
If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

" 5"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)



Do you have any further comments?

"I feel very strongly that Arlesey town council do not fully represent the town in the way they should. There are areas around the town that have been neglected for some time and need to be looked at with the view of solving there appearance. More effort should be put into getting things that will help the town on general. At the moment the town council is acting as a talking shop and that is not what residents pay there council tax towards."

3. Aspley Guise 3 responses

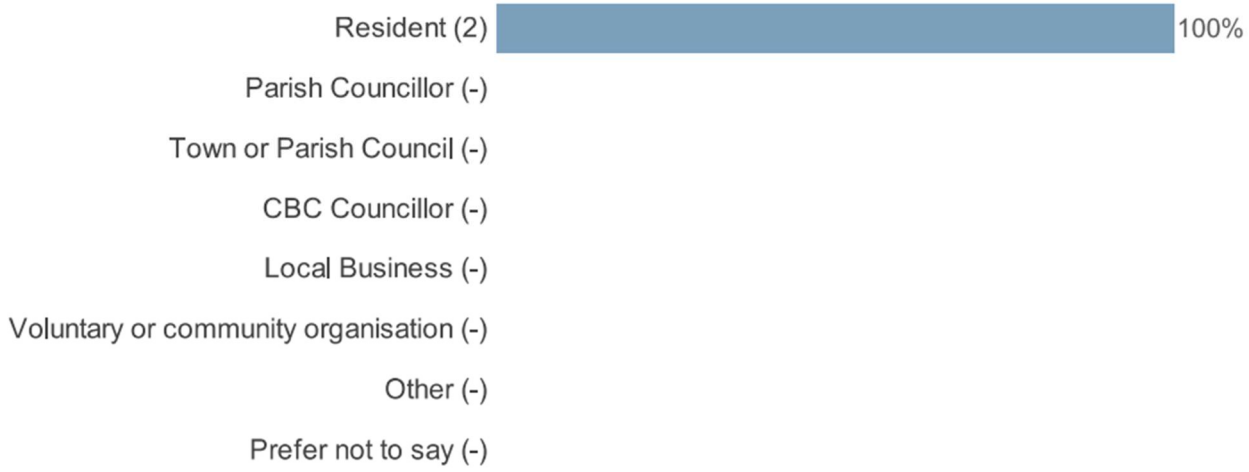
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

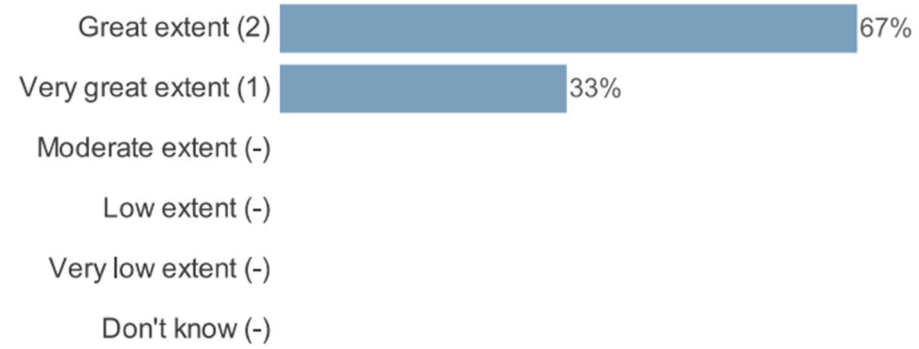
Review of property anomalies

Numbers 9 and 11 Woburn Road are in the parish of Aspley Heath but the newly built 15 Woburn Road together with the property Henry V11 Lodge are geographically in the parish of Aspley Guise. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly.

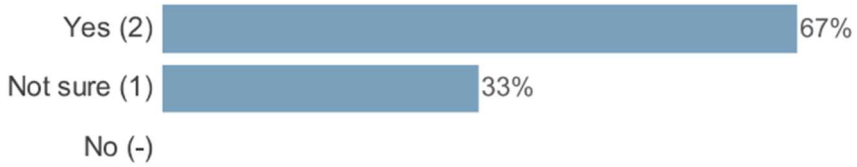
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

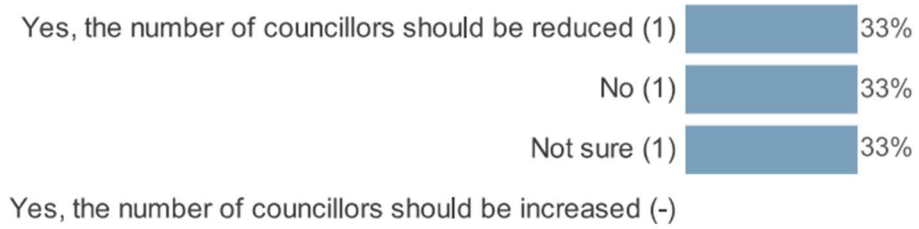


If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"That part of the Parish which may be the subject of future new development (Aspley Guise triangle) will have a different identity and should not be viewed as part of Aspley Guise Parish/village."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Number states 12, at best we have had 5, keep it at 5"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

No answer

Do you have any further comments?

"Local identity and representation is vital to good governance. Central Beds should not be combined with Milton Keynes and or Bedford and Luton. Aspley Guise Parish/village should not be combined with other parishes. Combining authorities is a tool for those in power to reduce local representation and should be resisted."

"Not sure many people know about the review I have signed up to email notifications from CBC therefore were aware."

4. Aspley Heath 2 responses

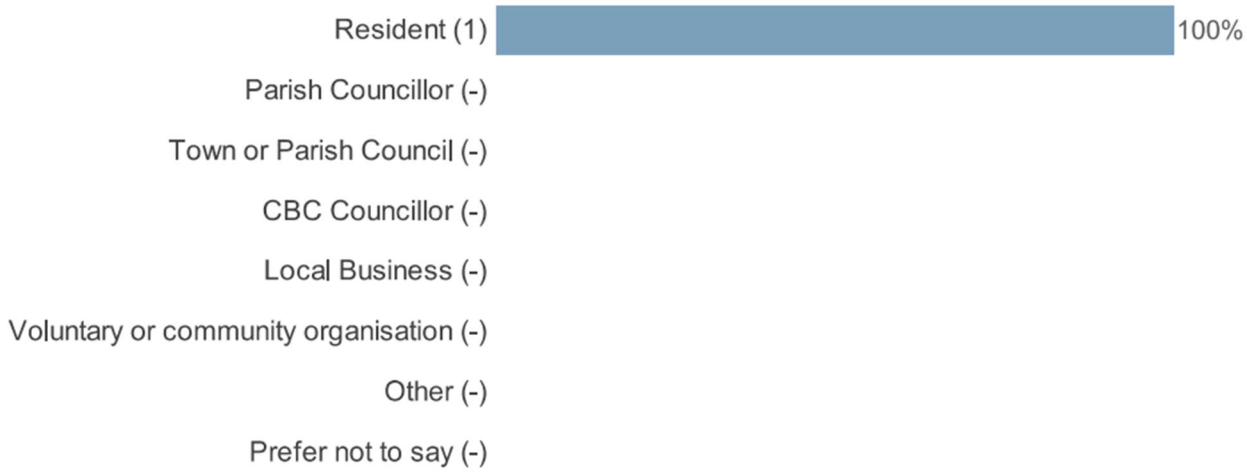
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Review of property anomalies

Numbers 9 and 11 Woburn Road are in the parish of Aspley Heath but the newly built 15 Woburn Road together with the property Henry V11 Lodge are geographically in the parish of Aspley Guise. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

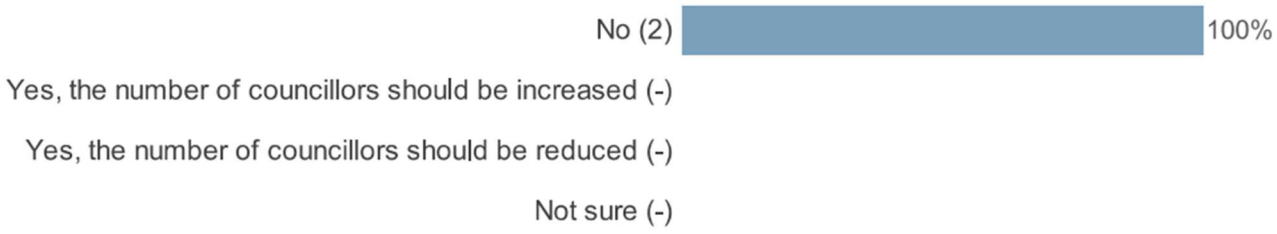


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)
No answer

Do you have any further comments?

"It would be good if the local council could have more influence on traffic management, not currently in their remit."

5. Astwick No responses

The following information was provided alongside the Potsgrove parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Astwick is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but rather meets as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at one further dwelling which will generate approximately 2 additional residents over the next 5 years.

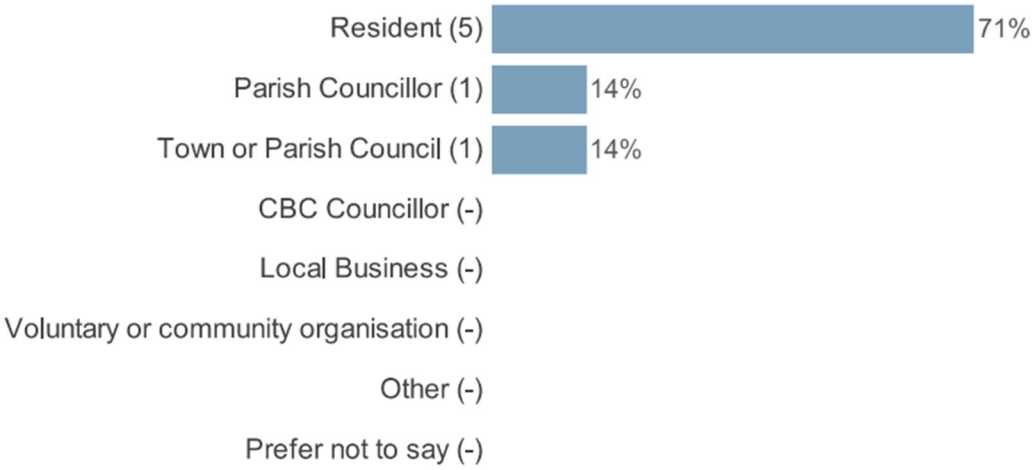
The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Arlesey, Biggleswade, Edworth, Langford and Stotfold. The parish, together with the parish of Stotfold are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Stotfold.

6. Barton-le-Clay 8 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

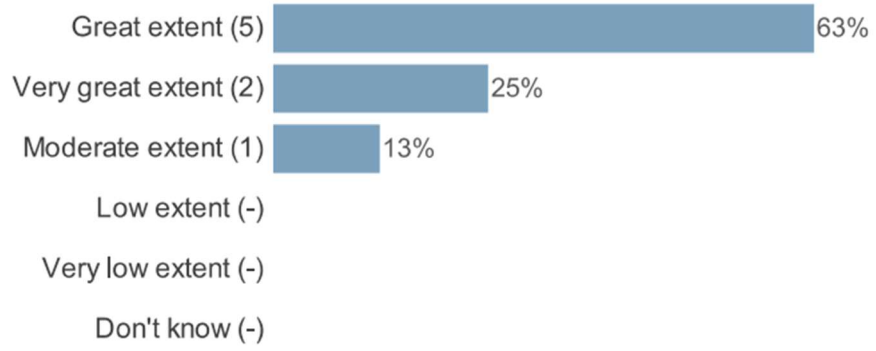
Are you responding as: (please select one)



if Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?
Barton-le-Clay

If Town or Parish Council, please specify:
Barton-le-Clay Parish Council

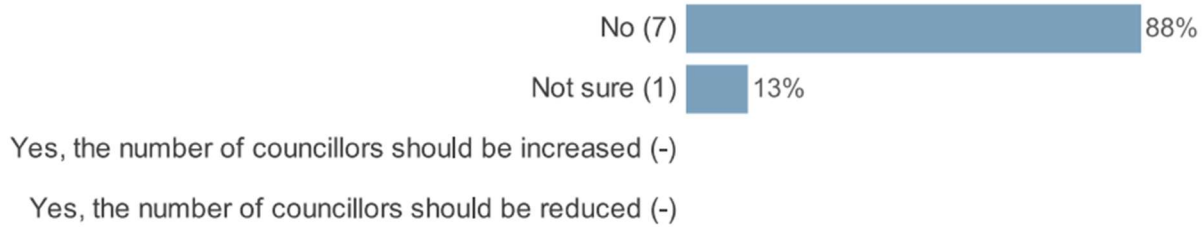
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"There has been no recent development in the Parish or neighbouring area and so the current arrangements are fit for purpose."

"I want the Barton-le-clay parish to remain as is."

7. Battlesden No responses

The following information was provided alongside the Battlesden parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Battlesden is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but meet as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at no further dwellings.

The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Chalgrave, Heath and Reach, Hockliffe, Milton Bryan, Potsgrove and Toddington. The parish, together with the parishes of Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath, Eversholt, Husborne Crawley, Milton Bryan, Potsgrove and Woburn, are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Aspley and Woburn.

8. Biggleswade 9 responses (plus a written letter response from Biggleswade Town Council)

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

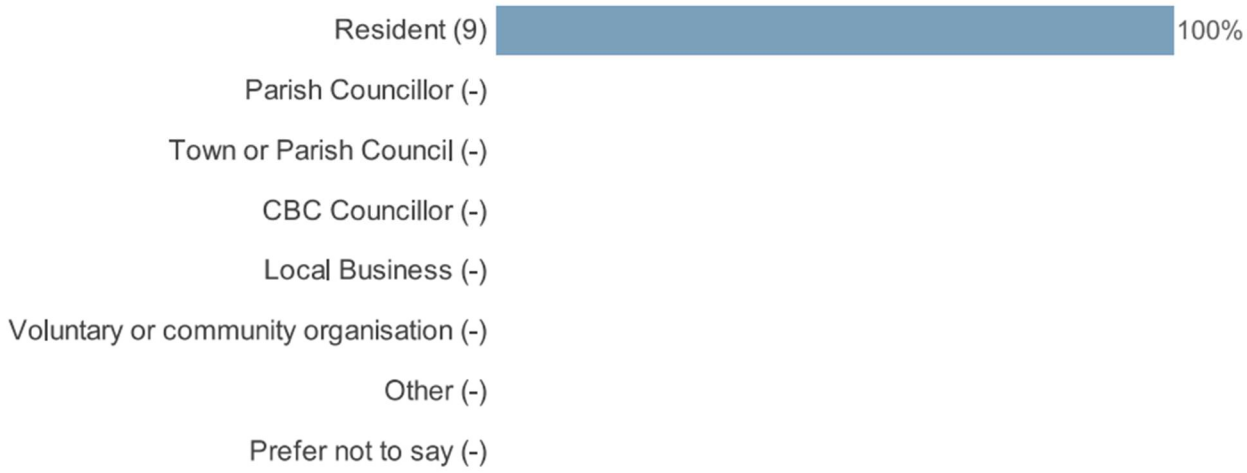
No proposal received.

Review of property anomalies

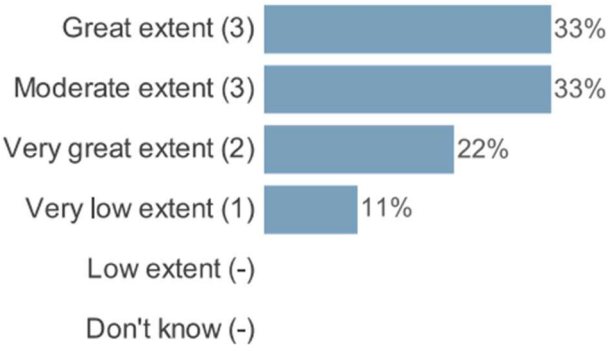
The property Brook Cottage is in a polling district of the parish of Langford but is geographically in the parish of Biggleswade Holme Ward. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly.

We also received a letter responding to the consultation from Biggleswade Town Council, this can be found in full in the Appendix to this report.

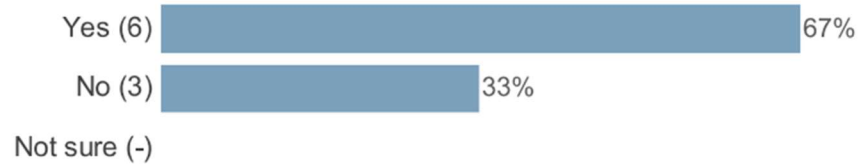
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Merging, especially to support people living alone with no family"

"As Biggleswade continues to expand the town appears divided, and with further expansion on the horizon the town will link up with surrounding villages."

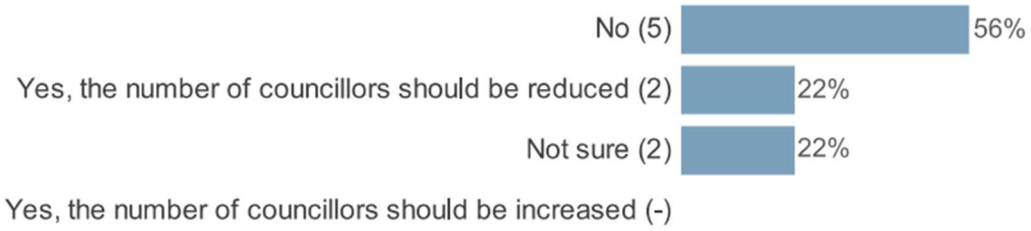
"You should leave the boundary as it is why spoil the individual areas"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Community Church"

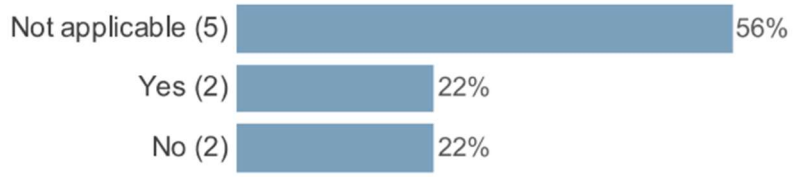
Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"To many cooks spoil broth. You all fight against each other and nothing gets resolved"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"3"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

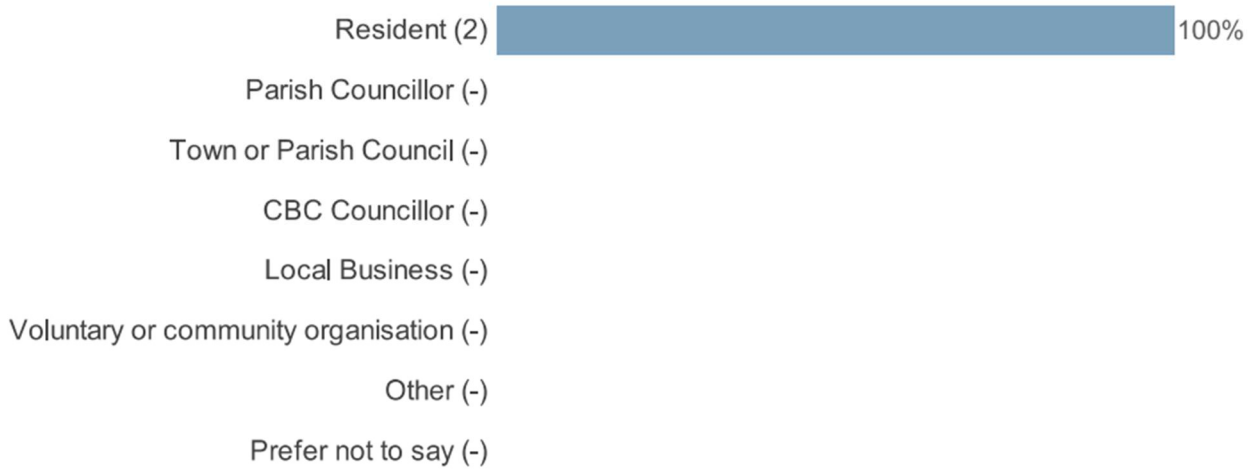
"I am happy as things are."

9. Billington 3 responses

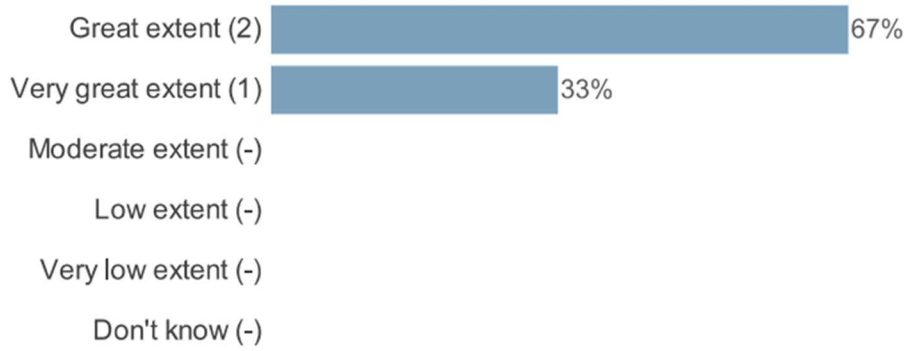
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



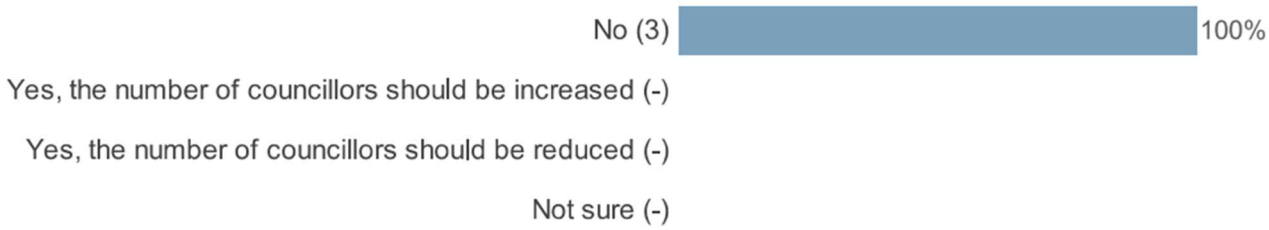
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

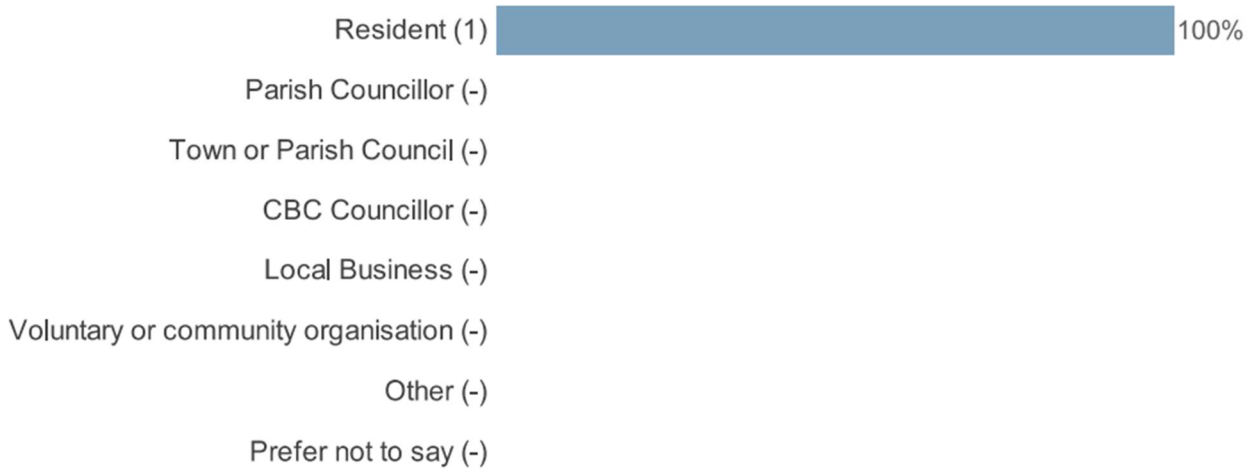
"It would be nice to think that CBC took any notice whatsoever of the views of local people, expressed via the Parish Council. But, I guess, money talks with greater effect."

10. Blunham 1 response

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



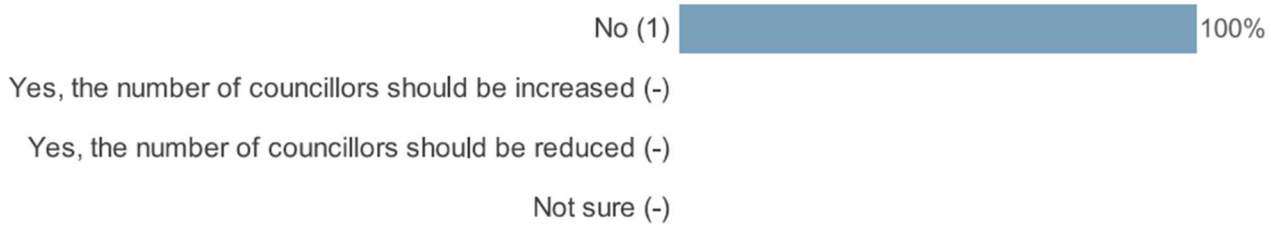
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

No answer

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

11. Brogborough No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

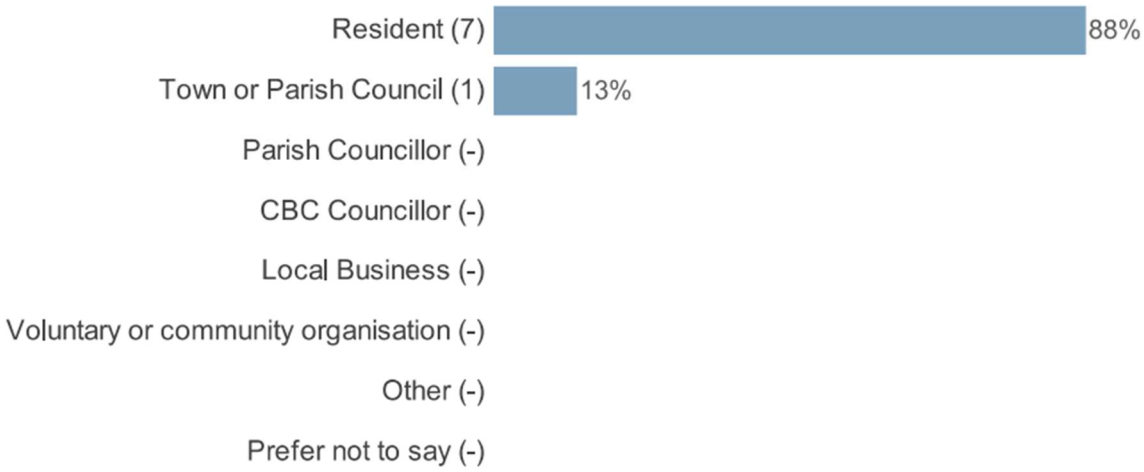
No proposal received.

12. Caddington 8 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

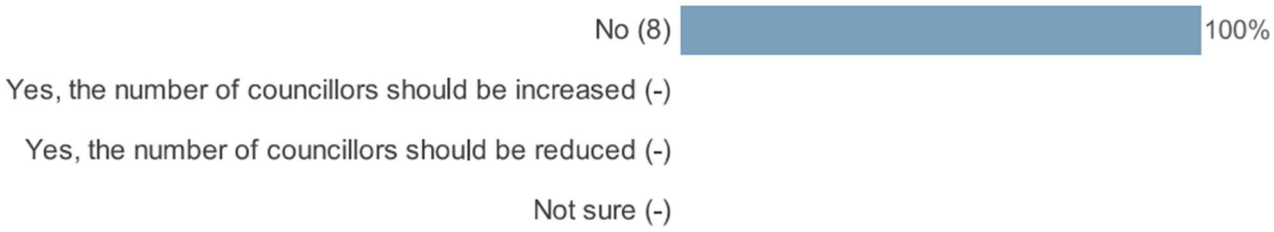
"Caddington Parish Council"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"In recent years, a major change in Caddington parish was the building of hundreds of houses at Caddington Woods on Chaul End Road. This development is separated from the main part of the village by some distance and it is difficult to travel between the two centres except by car. I believe it is vital for the two parts of the village to be integrated as much as possible to enhance our community (which has a completely different character to its neighbour Luton) and avoid a 'them and us' scenario. I would not like to see Caddington Woods as a separate ward or any other change that would inhibit integration and cooperation between the old and new parts of the village."

"Caddington boundaries should remain unaltered. it's unacceptable that Dunstable is making a land grab for Manshead and nearby fields from Caddington. The land is Caddington's and has been for over a thousand years, it's a hostile takeover and should not be enabled without Caddington agreement."

"Here is the resolution taken at the full meeting of the Caddington Parish Council on Monday 12th May. As part of the ongoing Community Governance Review, Dunstable Town Council informally approached Caddington Parish Council to seek support for two proposed boundary changes:

1. That the field adjacent to the entrance of Manshead C of E High School and St Mary's Primary School be transferred into Dunstable, with the intention that it would be used as a cemetery.

2. That the boundary be amended to include the land on which Manshead C of E High School and St Mary's Primary School are situated, thereby moving both schools into Dunstable.

It was RESOLVED to STRONGLY REJECT both proposals on the grounds that the parish boundary had already been moved in the past, resulting in the loss to Caddington of a hotel, care home, and a number of residential properties. The Council considers Manshead and St Mary's to be Caddington schools, and any further boundary adjustment would leave Caddington without a secondary school, which would be unacceptable to the community. The Clerk then informed the Dunstable Town Clerk/CEO of this decision. Caddington Parish Council subsequently noted with concern that, despite its strong objections to the Dunstable proposals—and the fact that the land in question is not included in the Dunstable Neighbourhood Plan—Dunstable Town Council voted to accept the proposals put forward by a working group and agreed to incorporate them into Dunstable's plan review. At the same time, a similar informal request from Totternhoe

to adjust the boundary in its favour was rejected on the grounds that the land concerned was not included in the Totternhoe Neighbourhood Plan."

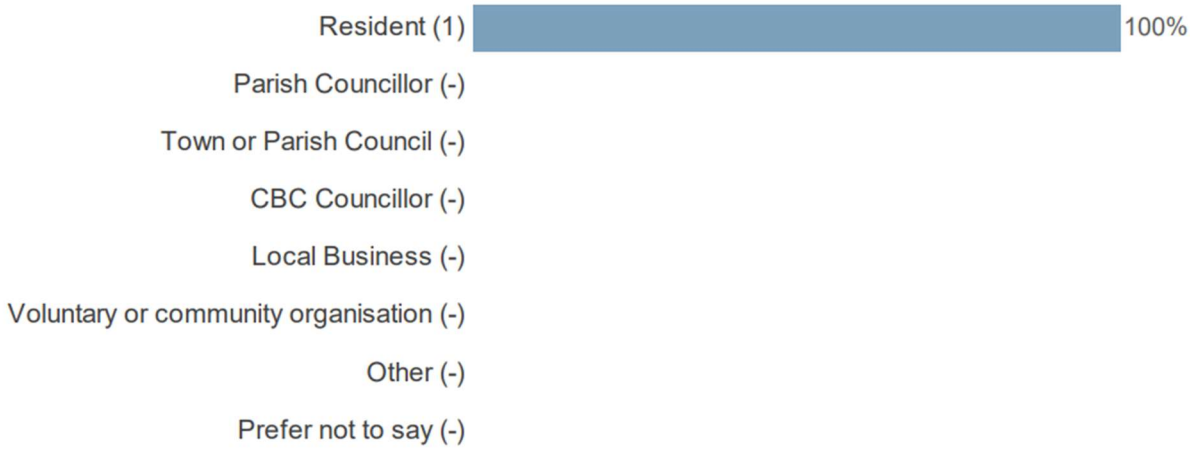
"Please do not move Manshead into Dunstable. The school is a part of our identity and history and is the local secondary school for us all. Moving this would mean risking our children having to go to school in Luton which is not preferred."

13. Campton & Chicksands 3 responses

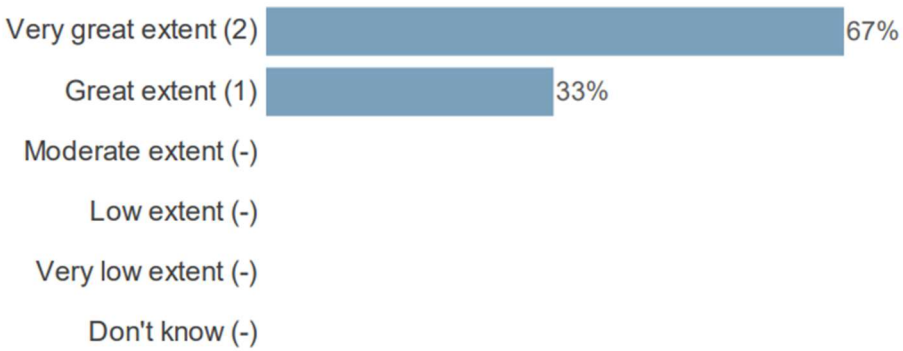
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



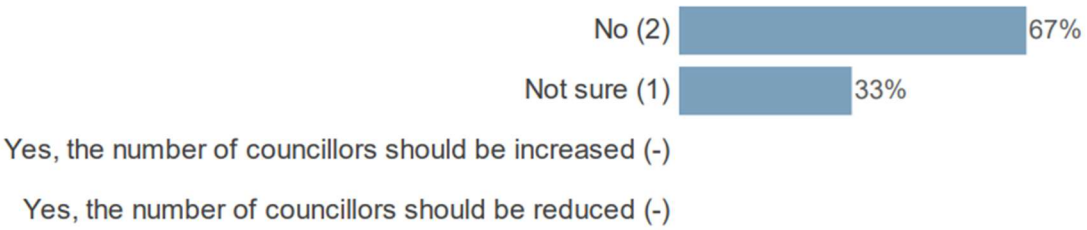
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Councillors can see no reason why the Parish boundary should change, the Neighbourhood plan is based on this boundary, so any change would impact on this and we share a cemetery with Shefford Town Council, in our Ward so any changes would disrupt this."

"The Parish Council represents the views of the community"

"Our Parish Council do an excellent job on behalf of the residents of Campton and Chicksands."

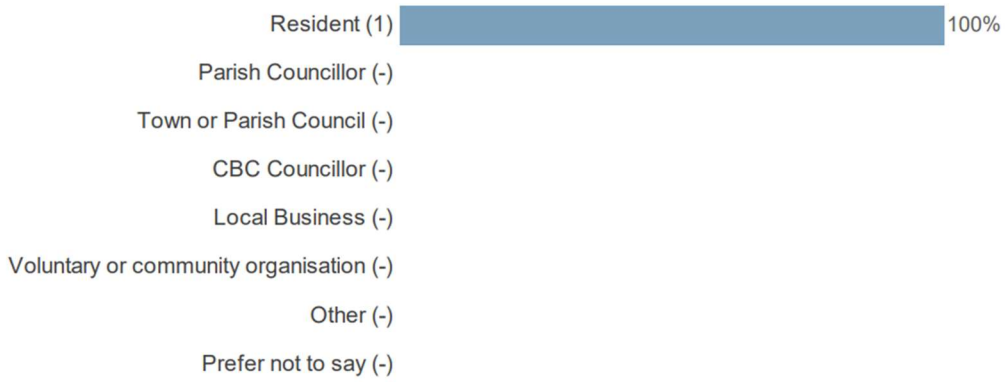
" We are a small, rural community, and wish to remain that way!"

14. Chalgrave 1 response

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

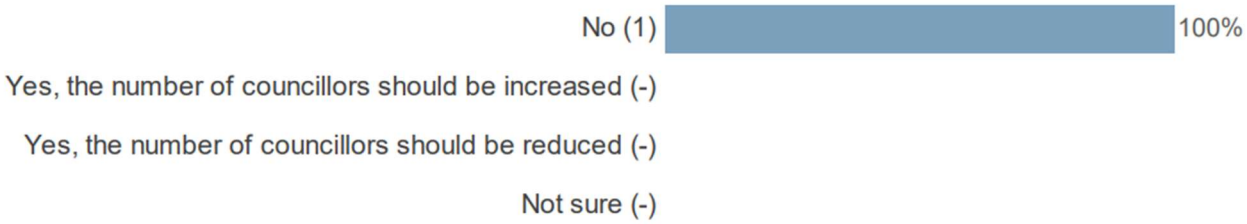


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

No answer

15. Chalton No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

At our parish meeting held on 23 May 2025, Chalton Parish Council discussed the Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) Community Governance Review. In response to the proposal from Houghton Regis Town Council (HRTC), which suggests that part of Chalton Parish Council's (CPC) area—bounded by the Houghton Regis parish boundary, the Luton Borough Council boundary, the M1 Motorway, and the A5-M1 Link Road (Dunstable Northern Bypass)—be transferred to HRTC, Chalton Parish Council wishes to record its strong objection to this proposal.

We outline below our reasons for this objection:

1. No compelling need – There is no justifiable requirement for a boundary alteration at this time, particularly with multiple significant housing developments planned in neighbouring areas.
2. Loss of parish integrity – The proposed realignment would leave CPC with a very small parish with an illogical boundary.
3. Misguided justification – The lack of a shop in Chalton (like many villages) is immaterial. County-wide facilities and infrastructure provided by Central Bedfordshire Council are accessible to all residents, irrespective of parish.
4. Future community strength – The occupants of the houses currently under construction will contribute to Chalton Parish Council's population, diversity, and long-term sustainability—strengthening both the viability and vitality of the parish. This opportunity to grow as a community would be lost if the proposed boundary change were implemented.
5. Support for local democracy – CPC would support a democratic referendum in future, allowing new residents to determine whether they wish to remain within CPC or move to HRTC.
6. Active planning involvement – CPC has a fine and published record of representations on planning applications in the proposed landtake area, as well as adjacent parishes, that negatively impact its residents. In particular it has dealt with a range of major warehousing and other 'big shed' applications affecting the parish and HRTC, many of which the latter has been notably inactive.
7. Commitment to public rights of way (PRoWs) – CPC has an excellent record, supported by a dedicated councillor, of actively protecting and promoting its public rights of way (PRoWs). In contrast, HRTC appears to have no equivalent committee or focused approach in this area. This became evident when CPC formally opposed proposed changes to PRoW routes north of the A5 bypass—proposals that HRTC did not address. Moreover, the same rural area (whose residents share little in common with Houghton Regis) has not been included in HRTC's rationalisation proposals, despite being a more logical southern extension of Toddington parish.

Furthermore, Chalton would be no more divided by the A5-M1 link road than the A5 divides HRTC from the small village of Sewell which lies within HRTC boundary. It is equally probable that the residents of Sewell will use the facilities in Dunstable rather than Houghton Regis. Relevantly the 2018 Community Governance Report recorded "It was accepted that it was felt that the existing parish boundaries were historic and suitable and as such should remain as existing. In particular it was felt that the village of Sewell should remain in the parish of Houghton Regis as it is part of the parish's and village's heritage."; given the ongoing rigidity of that HRTC review it is hard to reconcile its desire to split off a fragment of an equally historic parish fragment.
CPC would also like to highlight that, from a broader governance perspective, HRTC should be considered for a merger with Dunstable Town Council (DTC). Such a merger could deliver significant monetary and administrative efficiencies.

Conclusion

Chalton Parish Council is an active, effective, and principled representative body. We are committed to safeguarding our rural character, protecting the rights of our residents, and supporting sustainable, thoughtful development. We engage constructively with Central Bedfordshire Council, neighbouring parishes, and other local organisations to ensure fair and balanced outcomes. We take pride in our strong local knowledge, proactive engagement, and community focus. Importantly, we look forward to welcoming the new residents of the Linmere development as valued members of our community. It is our clear intention to represent and serve them with the same dedication and integrity we extend to all parishioners. We therefore respectfully urge that the proposed boundary change be rejected.

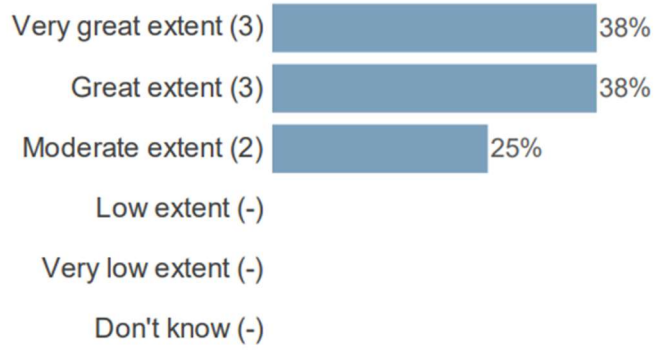
16. Clifton 8 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

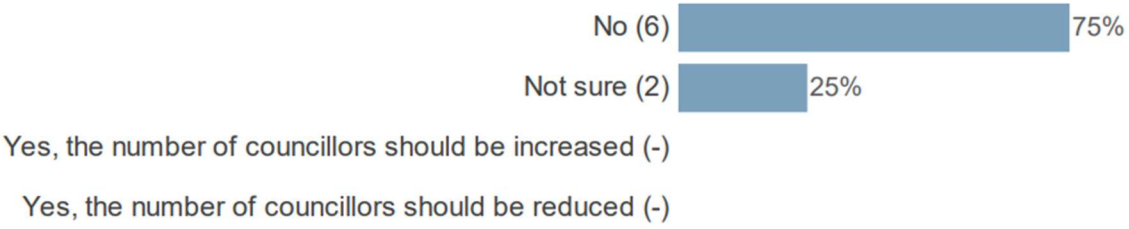
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Clifton is fine as it is. It doesn't need changing."

"The Clifton Parish Council are very active and have a great deal of responsibilities and actions in the community. It would be good to hold elections."

"We have a good team of councillors who reflect the needs of the parish and engage well with the community."

17. Clophill 2 responses

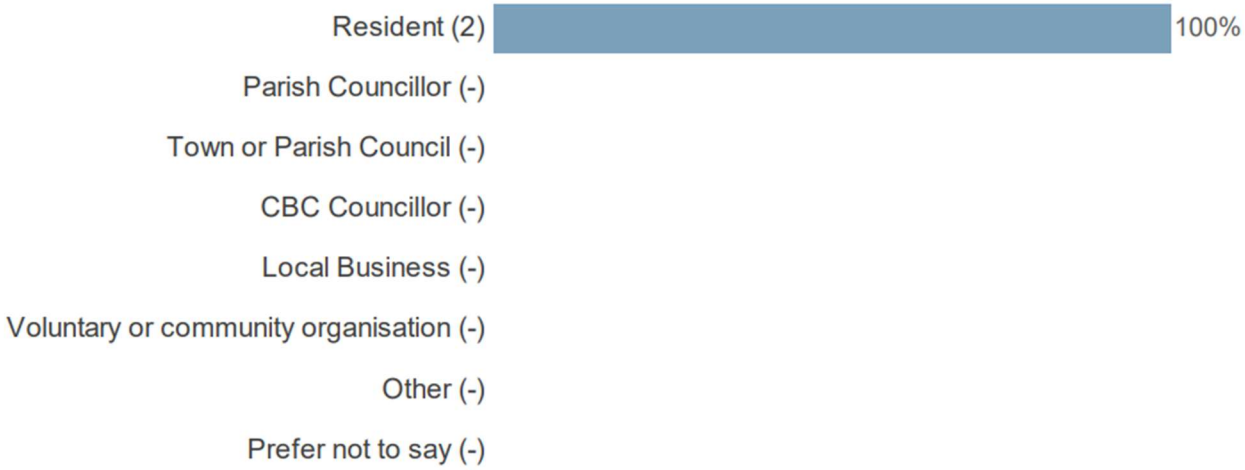
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

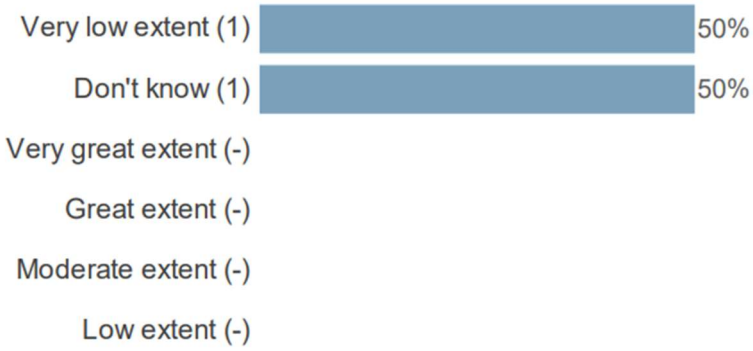
Review of property anomalies

The properties Orchard End and Willowstream are in the parish of Silsoe, but the remainder of area are in the parish of Clophill. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"I would abolish the Parish Councils and just have unitary authority"

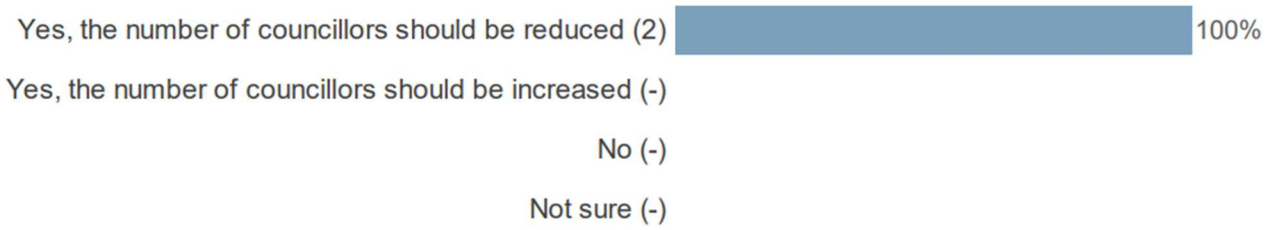
"Merge with ampthill or Shefford as need services in those towns"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Need to reflect association with towns"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"I would abolish the Parish Councils and just have unitary authority"

"Need to merge"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"I would abolish the Parish Councils and just have unitary authority"

Do you have any further comments?

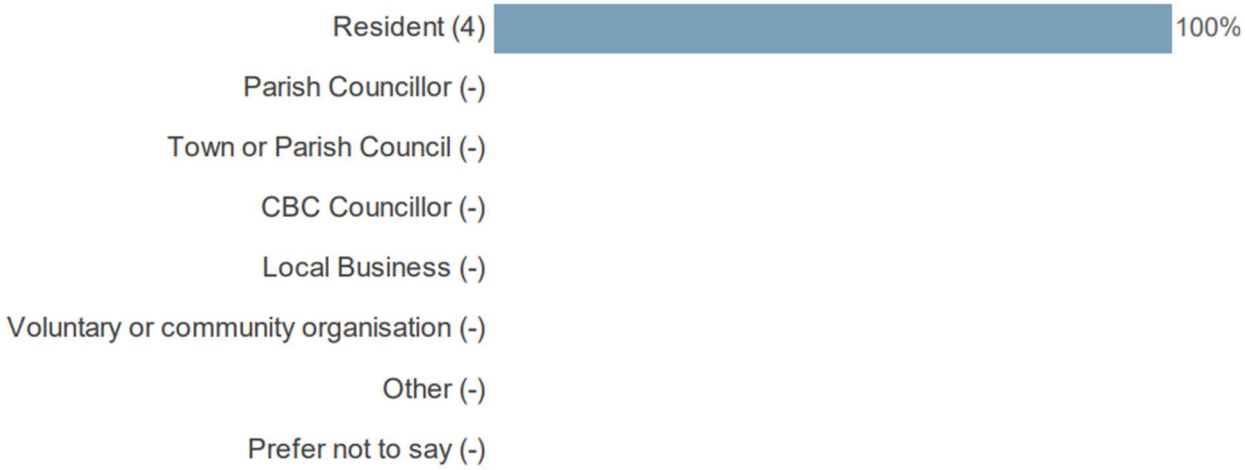
"I would abolish the Parish Councils and just have unitary authority"

18. Cranfield 4 responses

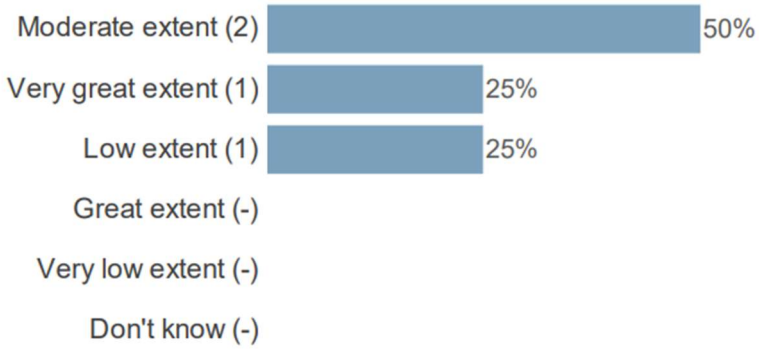
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



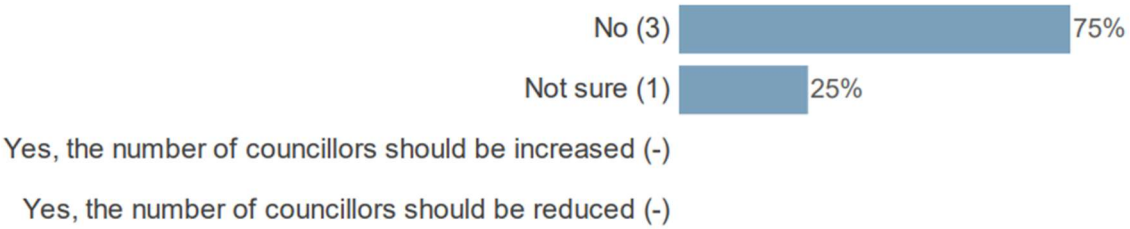
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Local councillors often stand for election because they have a "personal agenda" rather than the needs of the entire village at heart. Some small parish councils don't have the expertise or willingness to undertake "traditional" responsibilities, but hand over valuable assets to supposedly respectable and capable management organisations."

19. Dunstable 19 comments

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

I am writing to confirm that Dunstable Town Council formally agreed this evening:

1.1 To request that CBC include the proposal to amend Dunstable's parish boundary with Caddington Parish Council by incorporating land forming part of and also adjacent to the Downside Recreation Ground as laid out in Appendix 1.
1.2 To request that CBC include the proposal to amend the boundary with Caddington Parish Council by incorporating the land occupied by St Mary's and Manshead Schools as laid out in Appendix 1.
1.3 To oppose the changed suggested by Totternhoe Parish Council to move the land depicted in Appendix 4 into Totternhoe's parish boundary

Dunstable Town Council Working Group Proposals for the Community Governance Review
Proposal 1
To amend the parish boundary to include the land shown.
The land marked in purple is owned by Dunstable Town Council and is provided as part of the Downside Recreation Ground.
The land marked in red is agricultural land know as Cottage Bottom Field. The land is owned by CBC at present. Dunstable Town Council intend to purchase the land and develop a new cemetery on the site.

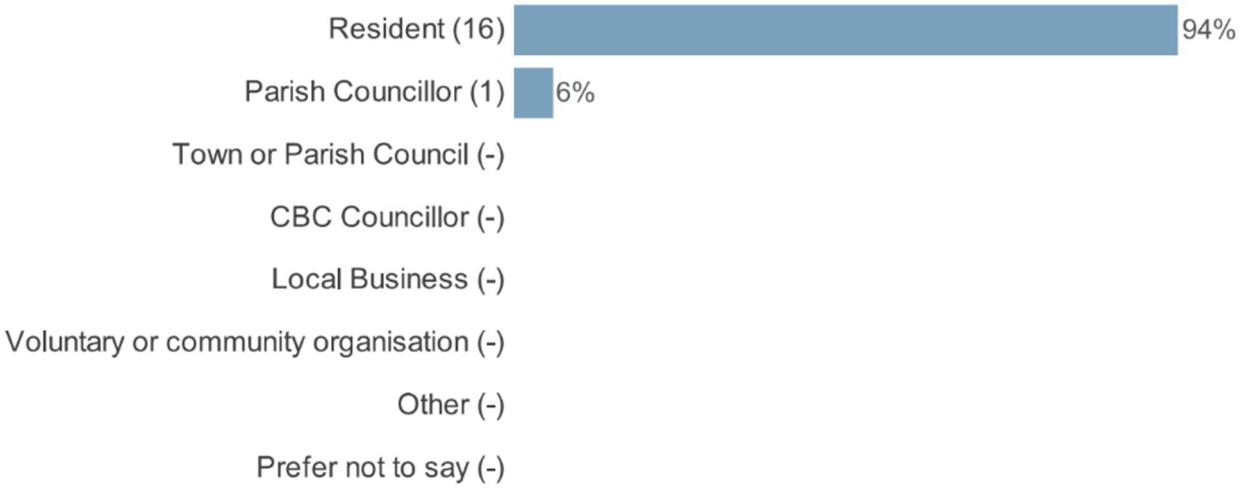
Operating a cemetery outside the parish boundary would not limit or affect the project – this would not change charges for Dunstable residents, for example. However, the Council's Community Governance Review Working Group propose that it would make sense for land being used for a Dunstable facility to be moved to form part of the parish boundary.
None of the land includes any residential properties, nor is it likely to every be used for residential development.

This would mean that the land occupied by Manshead and St Mary's Schools would be inside the Dunstable parish boundary. Dunstable Town Council's Community Governance Review Working Group propose that this appears to be a common-sense change to reflect that the schools are adjacent to Dunstable and some distance from Caddington itself. It would make sense for land being used for a Dunstable facility to be moved to form part of the parish boundary.
None of the land includes any residential properties, nor is it likely to every be used for residential development.

Brian Dunleavy has confirmed that this would not involve a change to Central Bedfordshire Council ward boundaries, so the remit of Central Bedfordshire Council Members would be unchanged.

Lydia Braisher, Central Bedfordshire Council's Admissions Manager, has confirmed that: St. Mary's Catholic Primary School does not operate a catchment area as admissions are primarily based on faith criteria. Manshead School's catchment area, covers Dunstable, Caddington and the surrounding villages/hamlets, so any parish boundary change will not impact on the school's catchment area as they should all be included within the catchment anyway

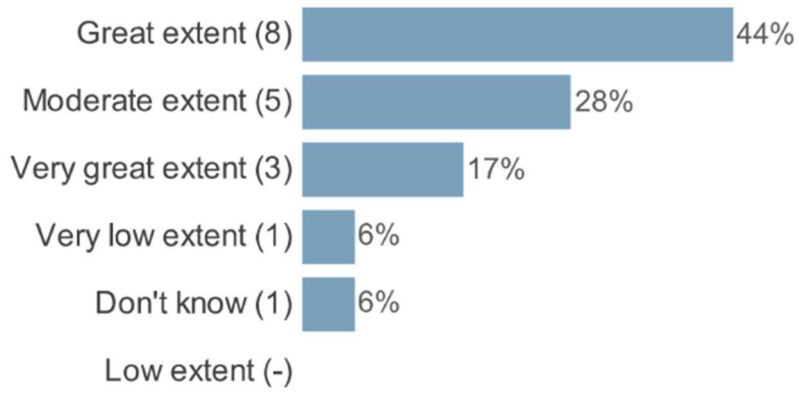
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councilor, which parish is this for?

"Dunstable South Ward"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Dunstable certain should NOT become part of Luton"

"I live in Dunstable Town not Parish. So can't answer questions about Parishes."

"West and south Dunstable border Chiltern hills and as such needs to represent the special needs of this area. Especially in new houses, cycle and leisure activities."

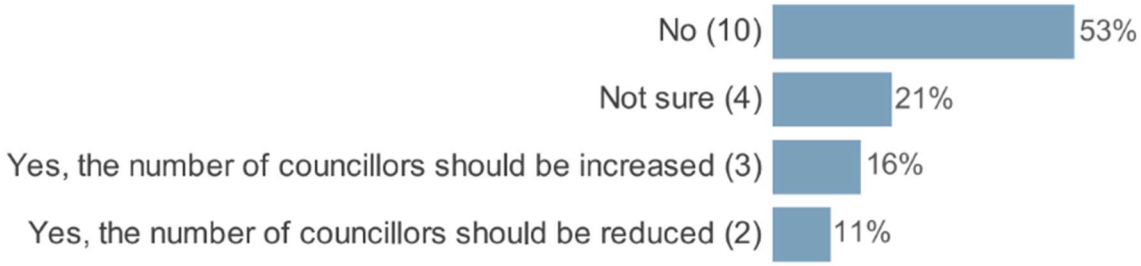
Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Dunstable Town"

"Need to incorporate into west Dunstable the importance of the downs to reflect The green belt / aonb"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Increase by 1 given the density of population especially compared to Dunstable West and Dunstable East which both have 4 town councillors whereas Dunstable South only has 2 town councillors with a similar density of population and area."

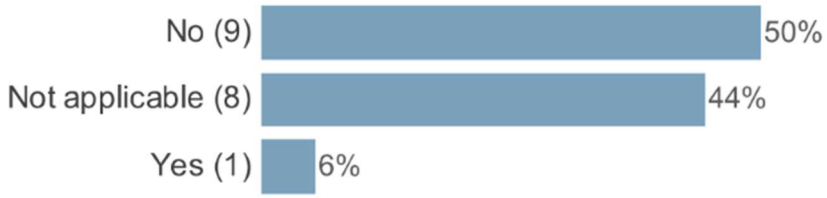
"Too many for each ward"

"An expanding community's needs are increased in line with the growth in population"

"Seem to be too many and they can't agree with each other."

"Increase should reflect the increase in residents"

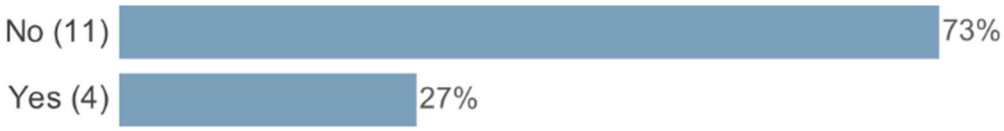
If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)



If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Increase by 1 given the density of population especially compared to Dunstable West and Dunstable East which both have 4 town councillors whereas Dunstable South only has 2 town councillors with a similar density of population and area."

"Increasing population"

"Number of councillors should reflect ward size. Ward boundaries should be moved to reflect key areas e.g. Dunstable, Studham, Caddington, Kensworh, Houghton Regis"

Do you have any further comments?

"Yes the offices and councillors should work will all businesses and social media sites not pick and choose who they want to work with"

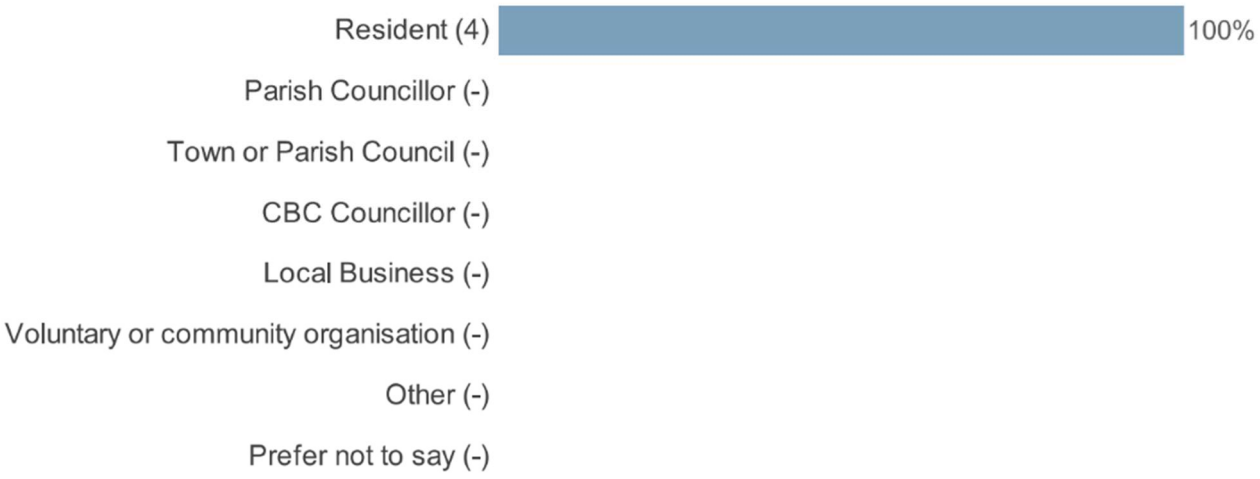
"This review is pointless. You mention at the beginning Town Councils then your questioning is all about Parishes!"

20. Dunton 4 responses

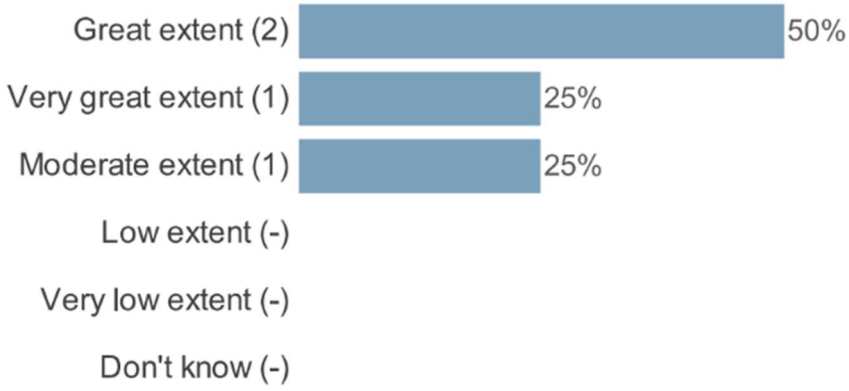
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



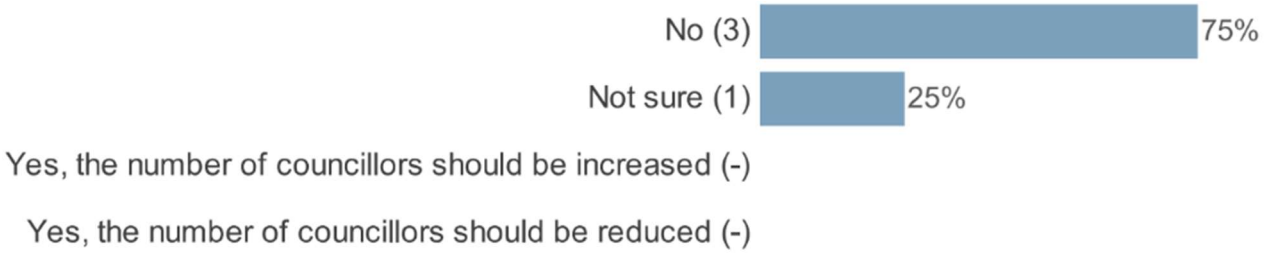
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"This is just another stealth attack on the countryside which from all CBC's actions thus far they hate. CBC are most likely trying to alter the layout of our area to get round a parish obstacles such that they can then destroy more little communities and farm land. CBC will do what they want regardless of this reviews outcome and be dammed with the people of Befordshire."

"More could be done by the local parish coucil to communicate with the local community more effectively. They should consider making more effective use of the community notice board, coordinating with the parish chuch notices, community garden, and the Dunton Recreation Ground Association. I would personally like to see much more collaboration and mutual support within the immediate village and wider parish, for the benefit of all."

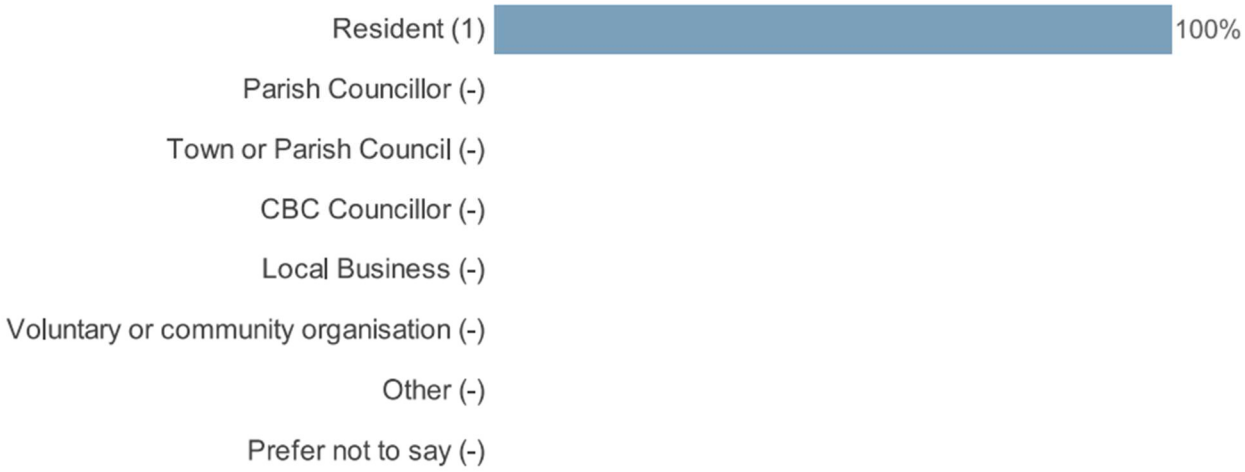
21. Eaton Bray 1 response (plus a written letter response from Eaton Bray Parish Council)

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

We also received a letter responding to the consultation from Eaton Bray Parish Council, this can be found in full in the Appendix to this report.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

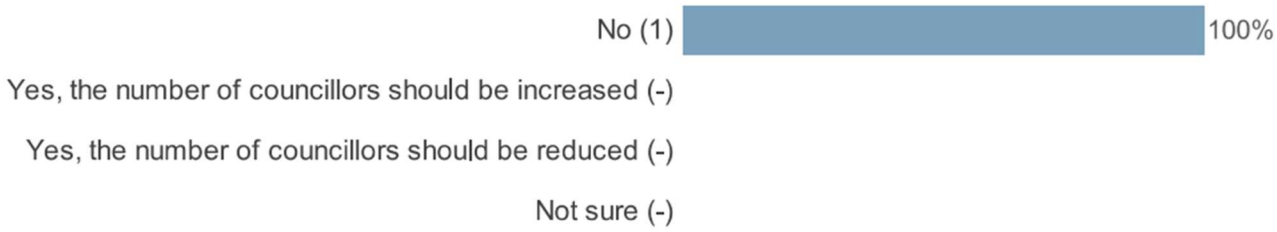


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Amount of theft from cars and fly tipping When increasing housing doctors, schools and sewage needs to be managed and planned at the same time."

22. Edworth No responses

The following information was provided alongside the Edworth parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Edworth is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but rather meets as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at no further dwellings.

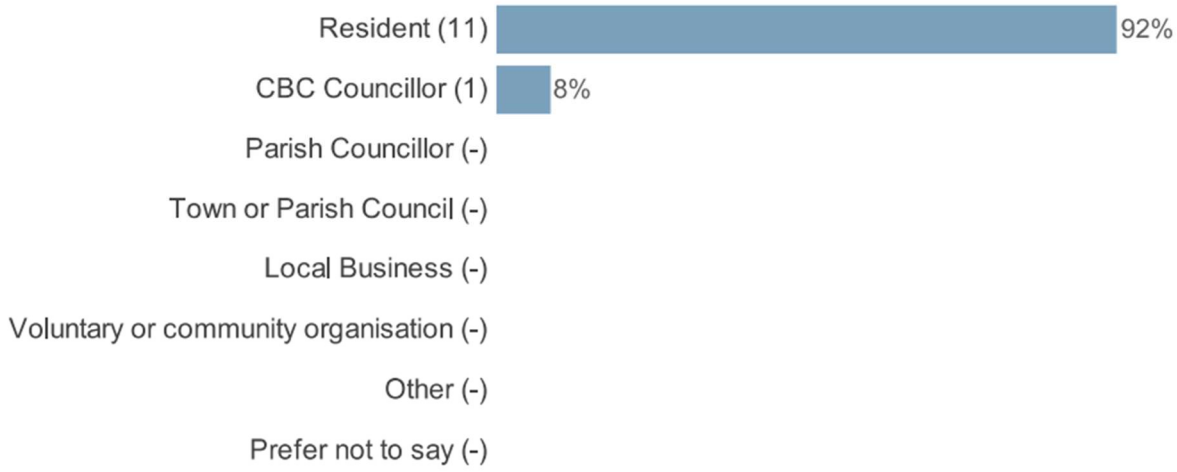
The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Astwick, Biggleswade and Dunton. The parish, together with the parishes of Dunton, Everton, Eyeworth, Potton, Sutton, Tempsford and Wrestlingworth and Cockayne Hatley are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Potton.

23. Eggington 14 responses

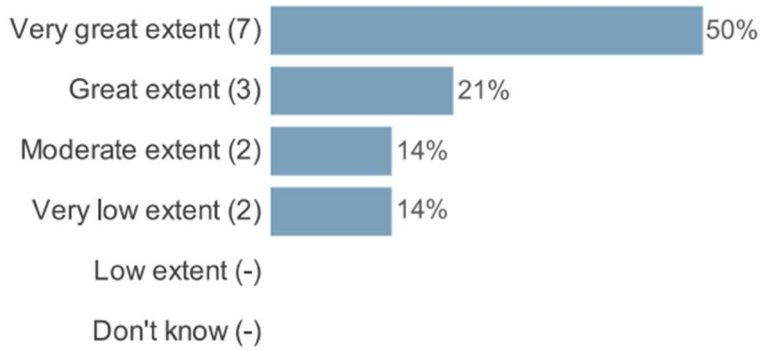
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

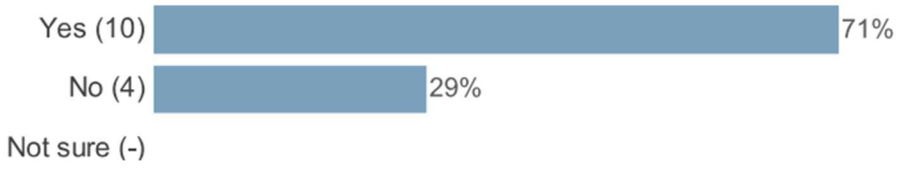
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Eggington Village should be separate to the new housing estate. The new houses should be a part of Leighton Linslade Town Council."

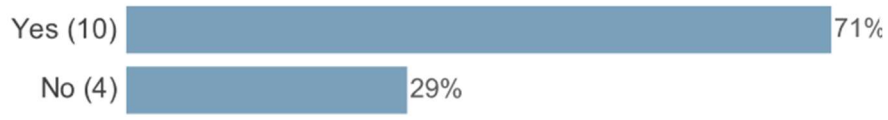
"many new homes are within the built environment of Leighton-Linslade."

"My house is on the Eastern edge of Leighton Buzzard, yet included to Eggington Parish."

"Eggington is over 1 mile away from the area in which I live (Clipstone park) and not representative of the local area. The only effort at engagement made by Eggington Parish Council is a single notice board in the Clipstone Park area. This notice board is not kept up-to-date with some items shown over 1 year past their date of reference."

"Parts using Leighton-Linslade parish Services should be included/moved to within Leighton-Linslade boundary and pay accordingly"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?



If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

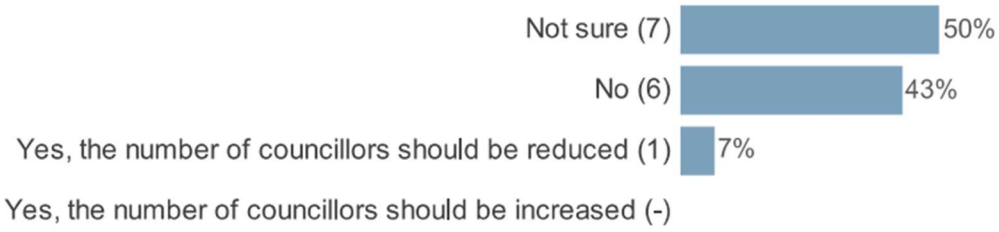
"Eggington Village Parish Council"

"homes attached to the urban sprawl of Leighton-Linslade are not in a village."

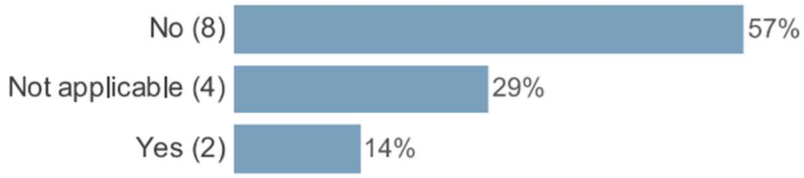
"Clipstone Park is an area of Leighton Buzzard. Naming should reflect this."

"Eggington & Leighton Linslade"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Leighton-Linslade"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Subject to relevant & fair representation within Leighton Linslade"

Do you have any further comments?

"There was a local vote on whether the Clipstone Park development should be part of Eggington Parish or Leighton Buzzard Town. As an engineer, I voted for the sensible, geographical division making Clipstone Park part of Leighton Buzzard town. Part of the information distributed at the time of the vote mentioned Council tax in Eggington Parish being significantly lower than for Leighton Buzzard Town. I suspect this is the reason many folk chose Eggington."

"The Eggington Parish is doing very well after the addition of the Clipstone Park developments. The Parish Council are doing a lot of noticeable things accross the parish and are spending the budget well and wisely. There is no need to make any changes."

"Those in Clipstome Park do not wish to be drawn into LLTC as the Leighton councillors clearly just see the new housing development as cash cows. Frankly I am offended by their comments of Clipstone Park residents not contributing."

"Very happy with being in Eggington Parish."

"As a member of Eggington Parish, we were surveyed a couple of years ago over we wanted the boundary to change. 97% voted to remain in Eggington. A number of councillors from Leighton Linslade are now trying to force a boundary change against the will of residents. They are stirring

up bad feelings over social media and accusing Eggington residents of not paying our way. They do not respect democracy and should be instructed to pipe down"

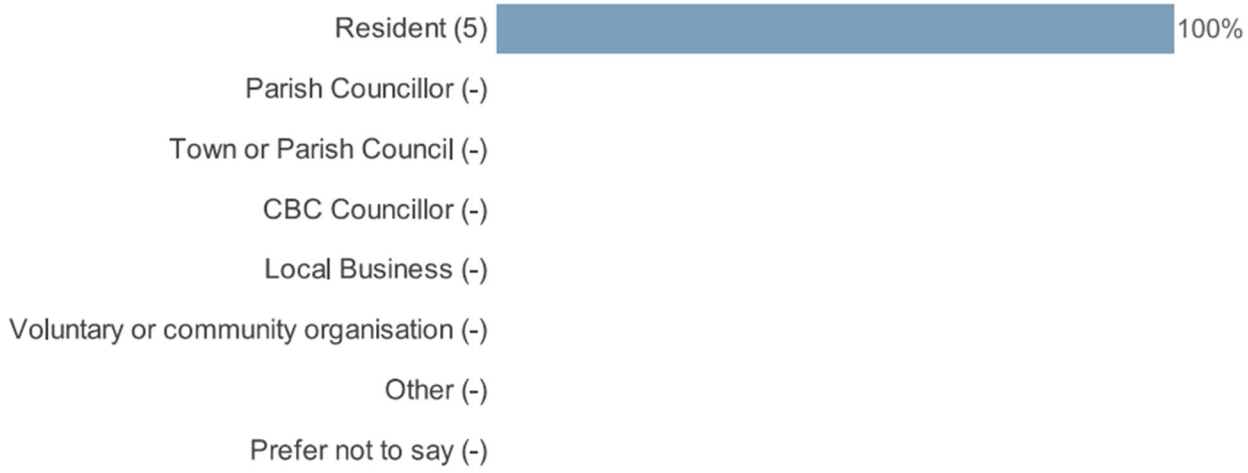
"Clipstone park should remain in Egginton.- and no changes should be made."

24. Eversholt 5 responses

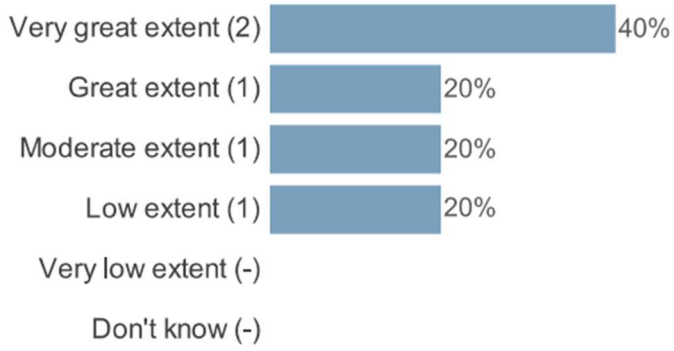
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



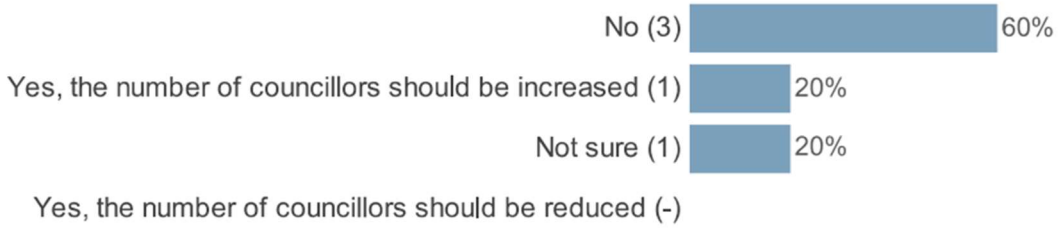
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

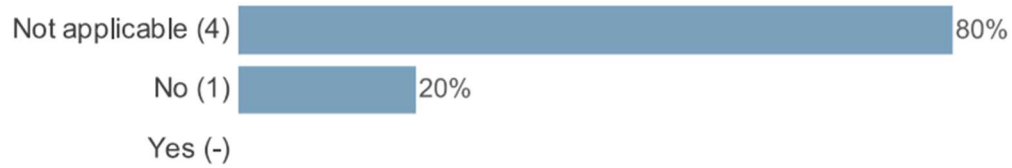
Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"10. The current parish councillors have been sitting for numerous years. Uncontested. There is a great need for fresh faces and ideas"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

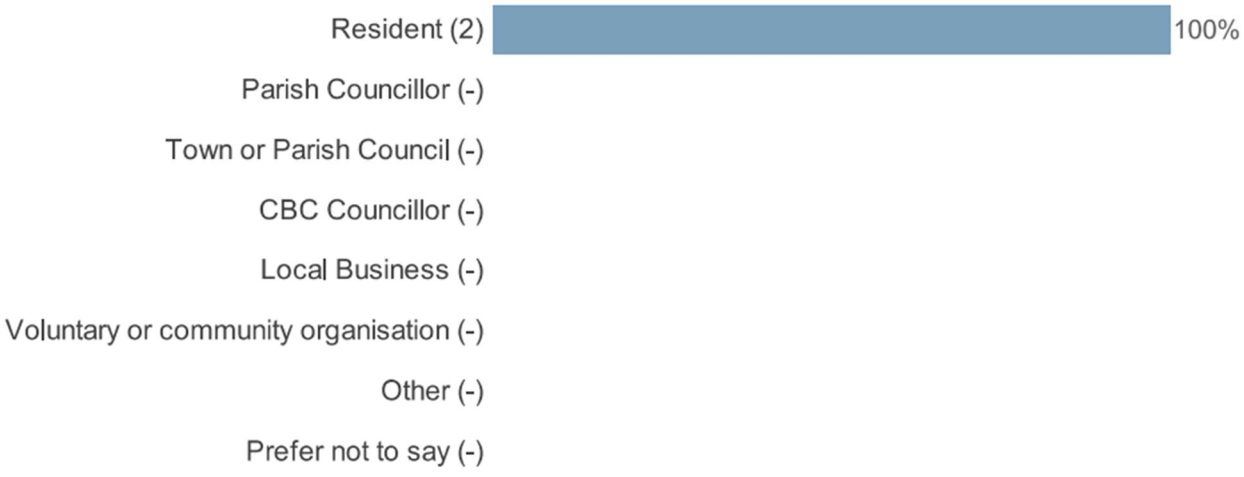
"There is no diversity in age or culture on the parish council. Younger generations should be encouraged to join."

25. Everton 2 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

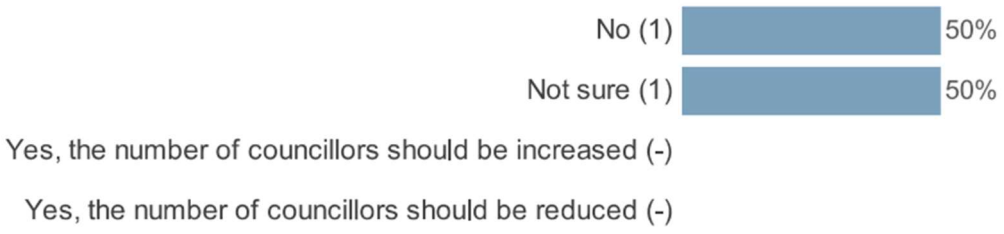


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Our Parish Council does an excellent job in looking after parishioners interests. Communicating to parishioners with regular news updates. Making sure everyone has a voice."

26. Eyeworth No responses

The following information was provided alongside the Eyeworth parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Eyeworth is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but rather meets as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at no further dwellings.

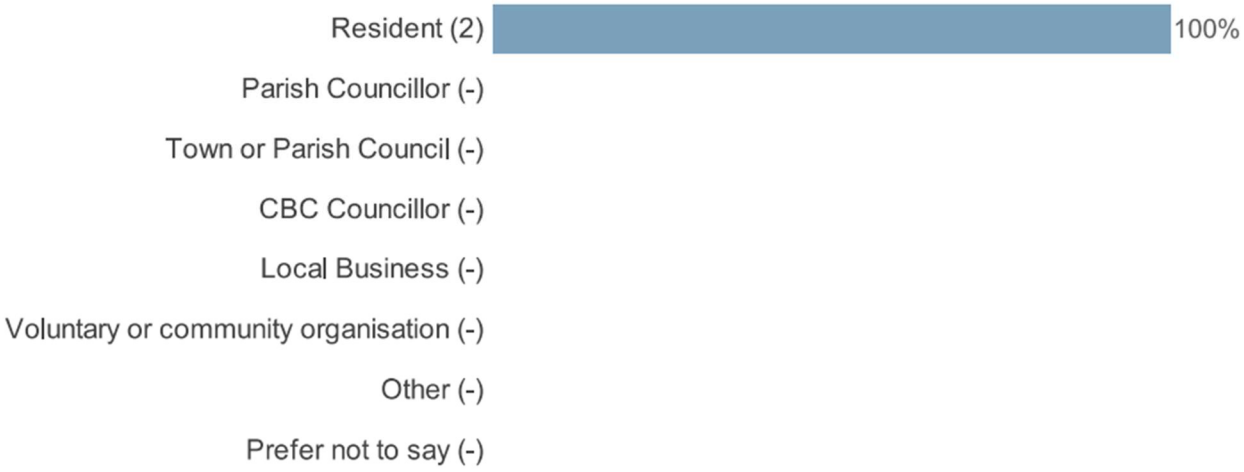
The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Dunton, Sutton and Wrestlingworth and Cockayne Hatley. The parish, together with the parishes of Dunton, Edworth, Everton, Potton, Sutton, Tempsford and Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Potton.

27. Fairfield 2 responses

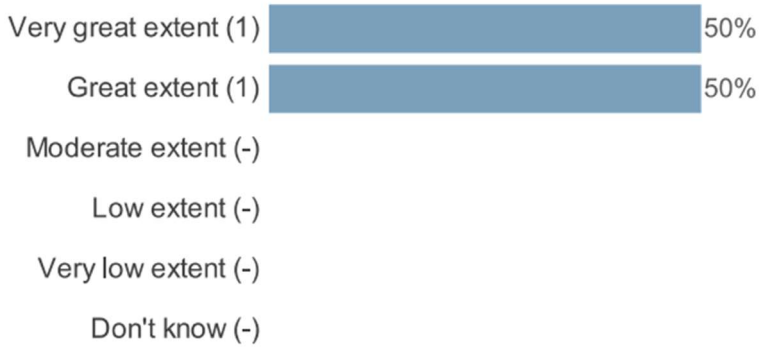
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



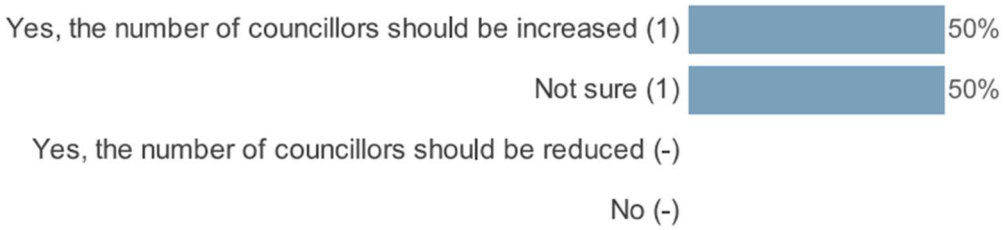
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"9 - we are getting bigger"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

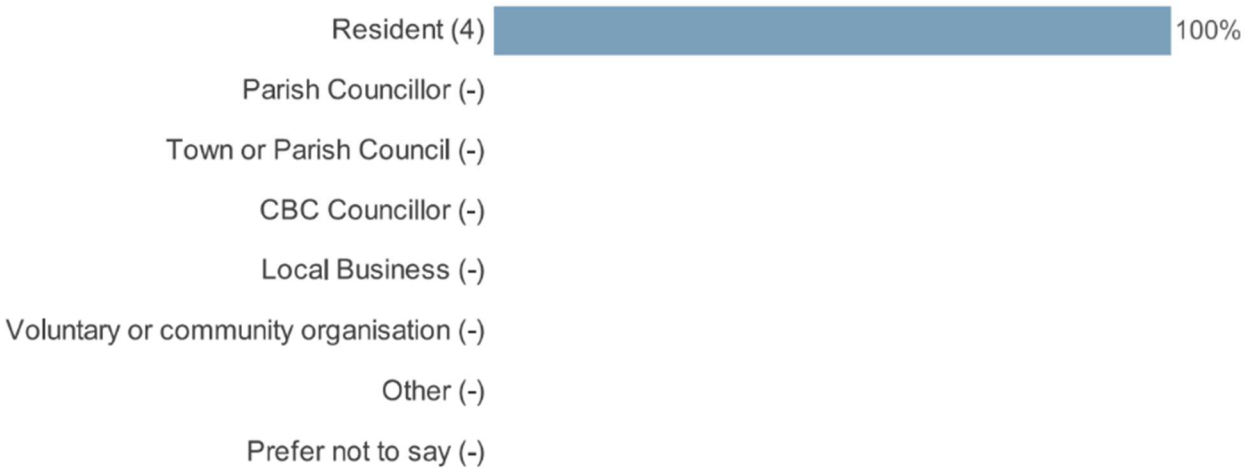
No answer

28. Flitton & Greenfield 4 responses

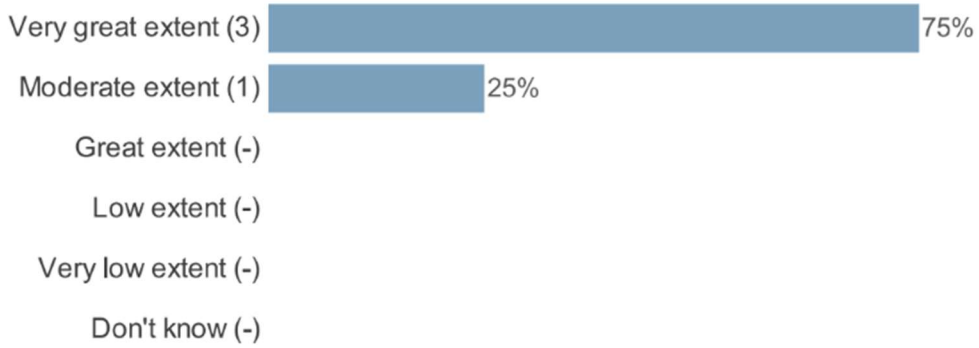
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

The matter was discussed at a meeting of Flitton & Greenfield Parish Council on Wednesday 12 March. As a result, we do not believe that any changes are necessary to our parish at this time.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



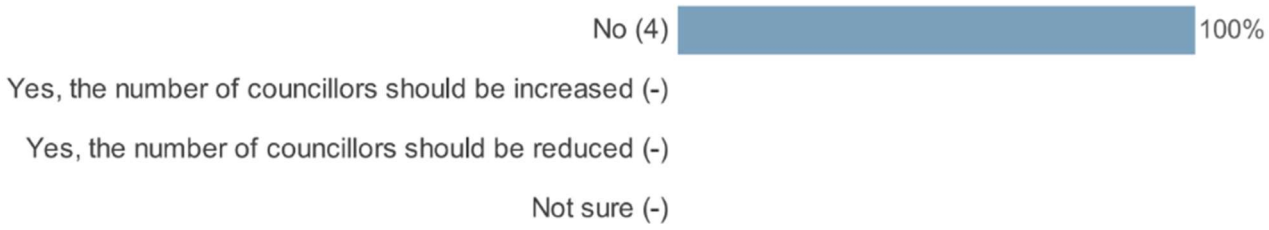
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



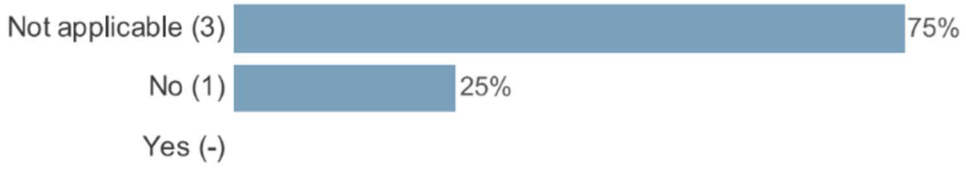
Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"status quo should be maintained"

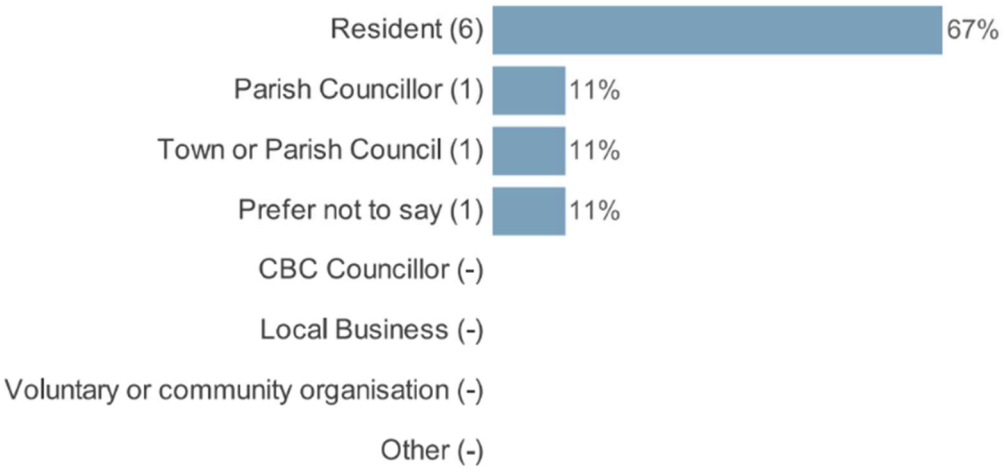
29. Flitwick 10 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

It was resolved to ask Central Bedfordshire Council to do the following as part of the governance review for Flitwick:

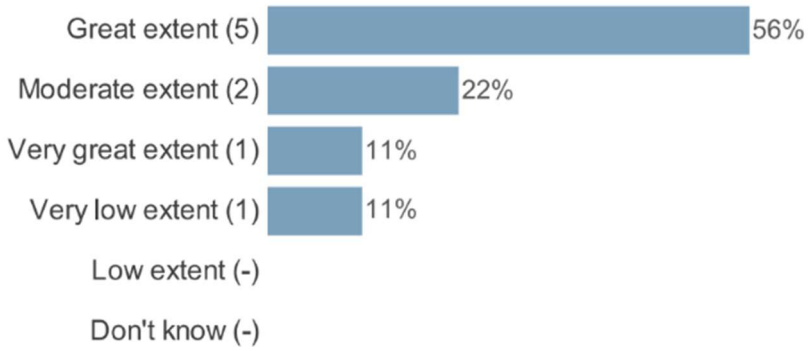
- abolish the East and West Wards and instate one Flitwick Parish Ward for the town
- reduce the number of council members from 17 to 15

Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, what parish is this for?
Flitwick
If Town or Parish Council, please specify:
Flitwick

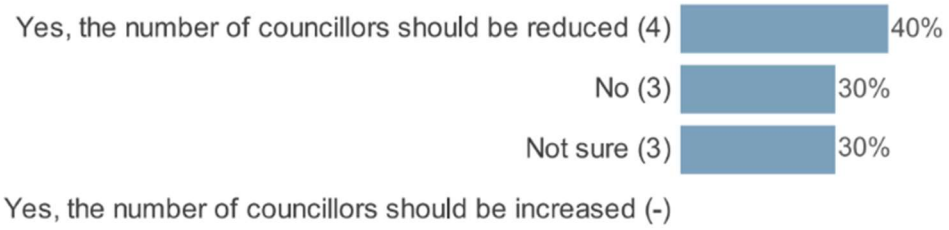
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



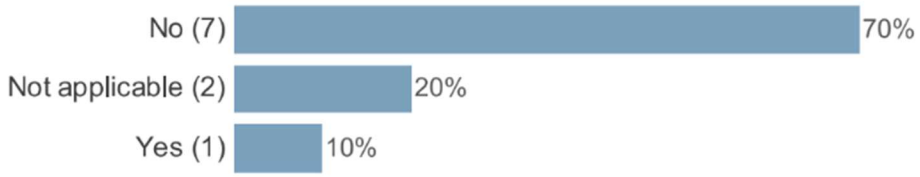
If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Flitwick has 17 councillors and it has been exceptionally difficult to maintain this number throughout the current and the previous term. We have co-opted, but still have three vacancies. I would like to see an election in 2027 to give the Council a mandate for further change and to have the burden of constantly recruiting and inducting new councillors removed. 13 would be ideal, although the council would only resolve to request a reduction to 15."

"we have too many for size."

"To prevent co-opting."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Flitwick is already divided into wards. I see not benefit in changing the existing arrangements, and believe doing so could cause some areas of the parish to become neglected"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Flitwick Part (East) and Flitwick Part (West) align with the Mid Bedfordshire District Council wards and have no relevance to our community. The splitting of the town into two parish wards is

divisive, with the East side of the railway incorporating the second most deprived area in Central Bedfordshire. We do not work this way as a group of councillors, preferring to see Flitwick as a complete community."

"flitwick should be 1 not 2 areas"

Do you have any further comments?

"The ratio of population to councillors seems high when compared with the council average, but recruiting more councillors may prove difficult. The town council is currently doing a good job and working for the good of the town."

"It would be great if the people in flitwick to have a burial ground,we would like to have a grave in flitwick when we die."

30. Gravenhurst 1 response

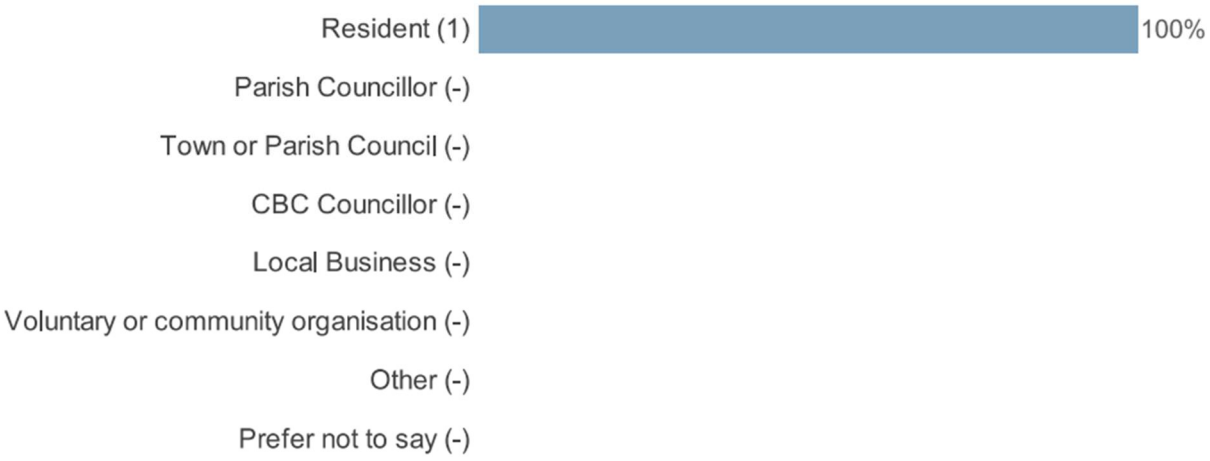
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Review of property anomalies

Brunswick House is in the Parish of Gravenhurst but is geographically in the parish of Westoning. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly

Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

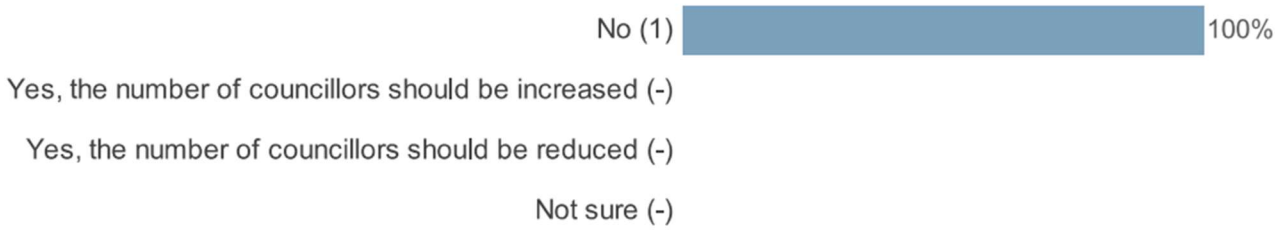
Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"The boundary between Shillington and Gravenhurst parishes is the river at the bottom of Shilllington Hill. There are properties on the private Old Mill Lane, backing onto the river, that have Gravenhurst post codes:eg MK not SG, as a community associate more with Gravenhurst than Shillington and partake in Gravenhurst parish events. Is it possible to adopt them into Gravenhurst parish please? Asking for a friend!!"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

No answer

Do you have any further comments?

"Interesting that Gravenhurst is only expecting one more property to be built here by 2030 - a relief after the imposition of 70 odd properties with no infrastructure improvements, aside from some much welcomed children's play equipment on the recreation ground - in itself nothing

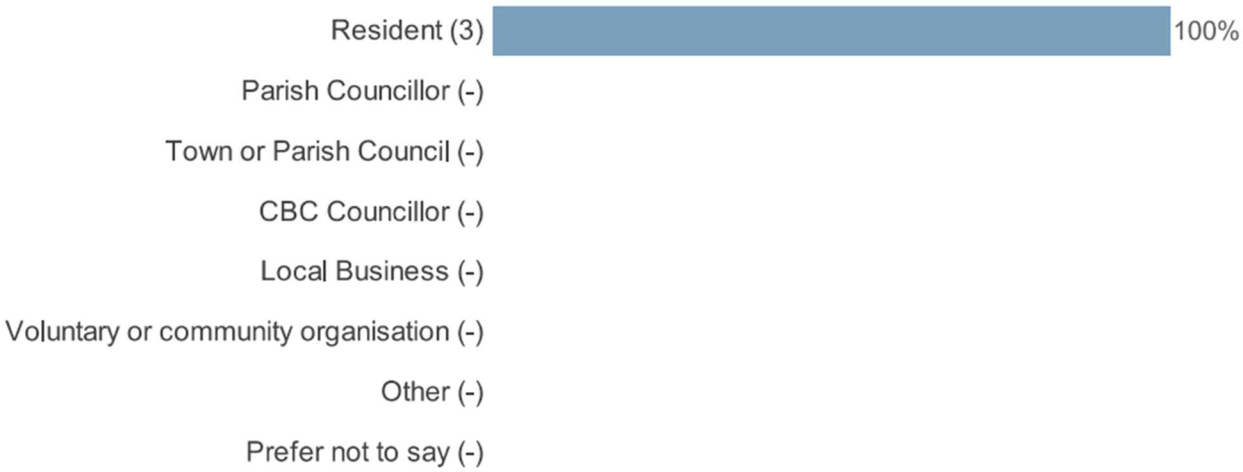
compared to some kids play areas i have seen - in the past 5 years. Thanks to the parish councillors for their time and care, the amazing Discolicious grown from local farmers' covid-kindness, the institution of the Gravenhurst Gallop, and all the Village Hall activities!"

31. Harlington 3 responses

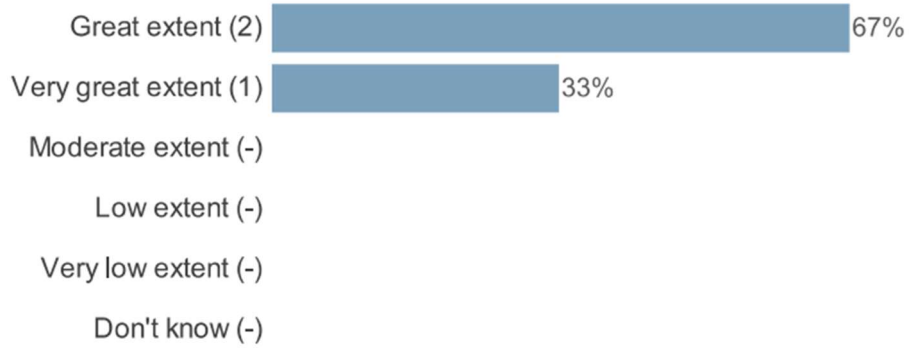
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

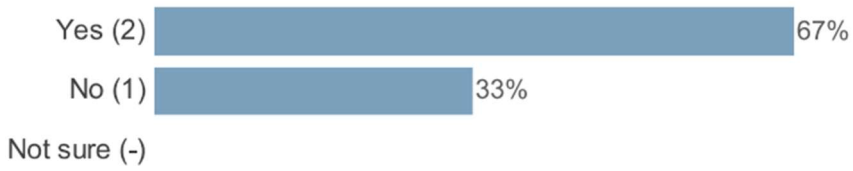
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

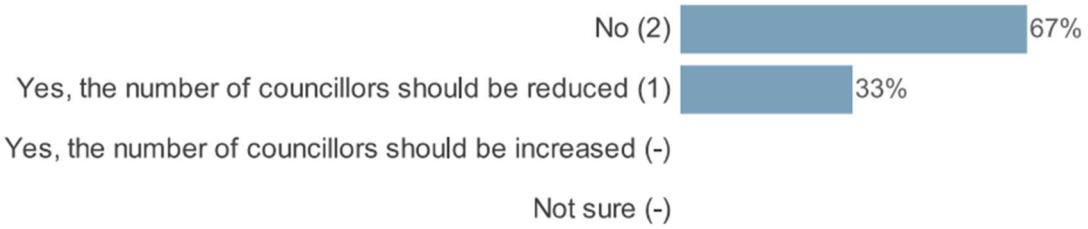


If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"In general the boundary is suitable. However there is a curious 'panhandle' at the north-eastern end of the parish. It is appropriate that Mill End is included in Harlington, but why the extension to the north-east? And the Lovett Green development off the Barton Road surely belongs in Harlington with the rest of Mill End, It's currently in Westoning Parish, but you have to drive through Harlington and on for another 3 miles to get from Lovett Green to Westoning village."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"There are always unfilled seats, so by reducing the number it will create more competition for those seats."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

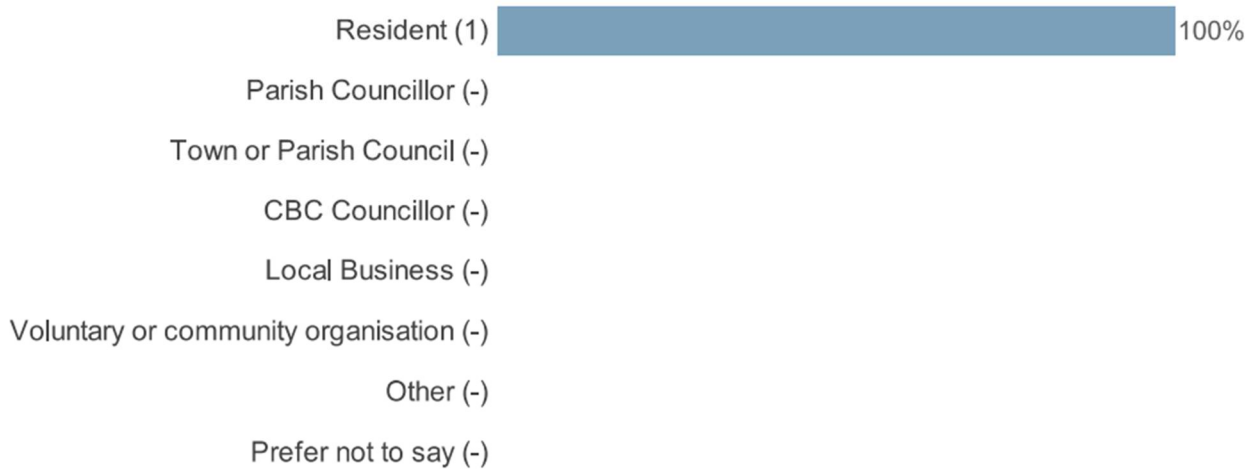
"Our parish council is continually short of councillors. This is not good for local democracy, as elections are not contested and some councillors are co-opted. What can be done to encourage more people to put themselves forward?"

32. Haynes 1 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

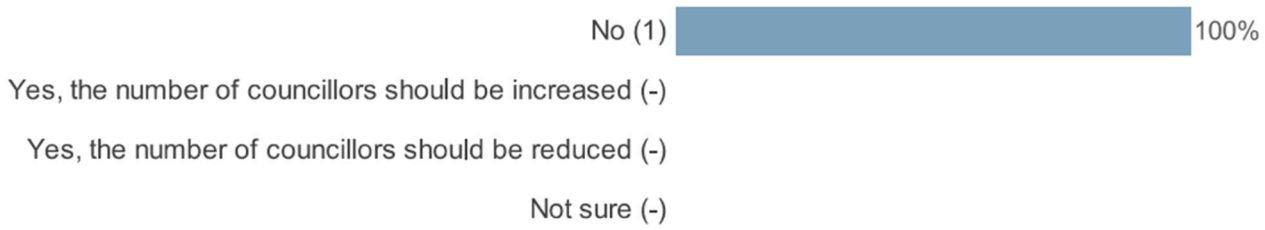


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)
No answer

Do you have any further comments?

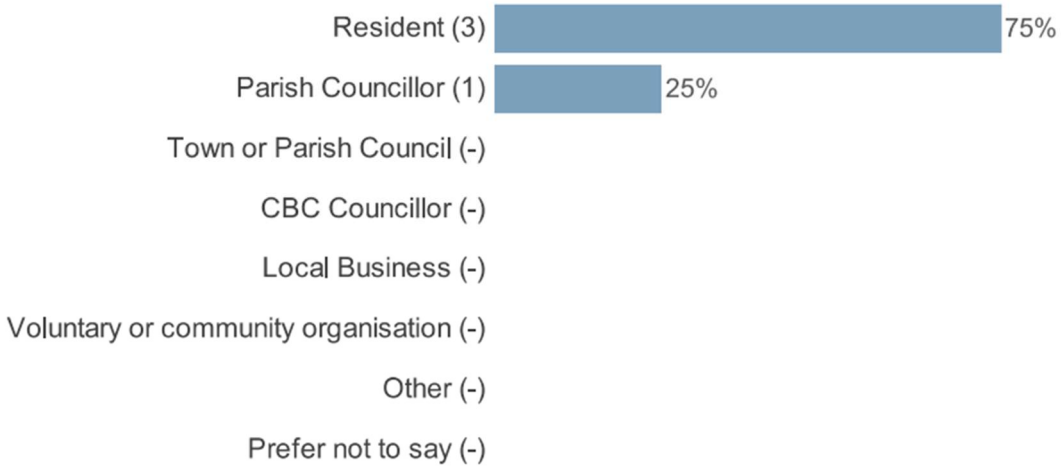
"Although Haynes West End is separated from the main village by the A6 it is still very much part of Haynes as are its residents."

33. Heath & Reach 5 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

Regarding the CGR. This was discussed at a PC meeting and there is no comment to make other than Heath & Reach wish to remain as it is.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

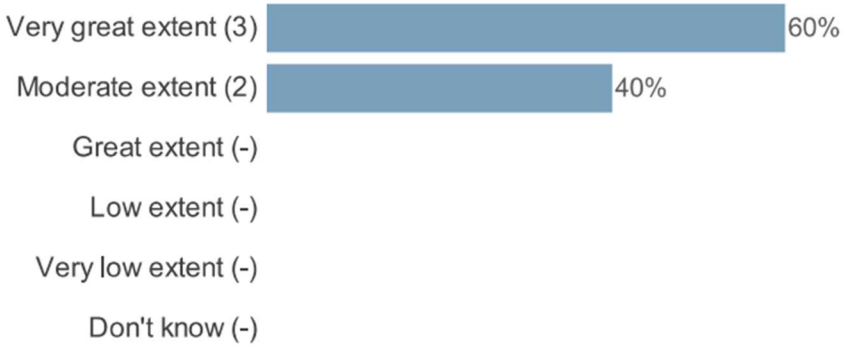


If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

"Heath and Reach

"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish

council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

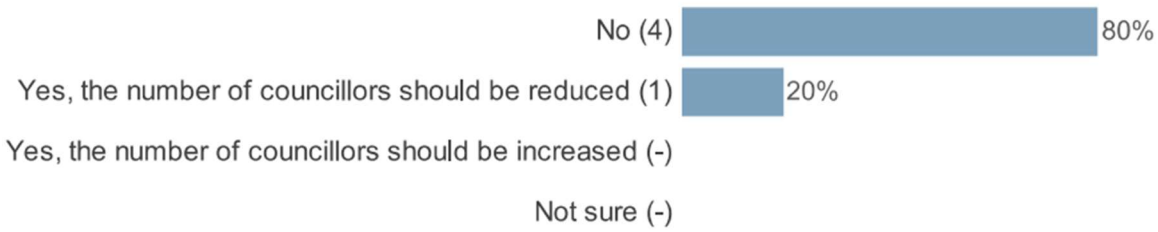
"they could be joined"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Joined community"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"too many passengers and too few doers. Not sure what they are all doing."

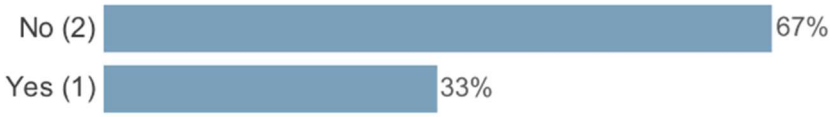
"this is or someone else to decide looking for efficiency savings ."

"Reasons include: improved efficiency, cost savings nd better representation with fewer deadweights."

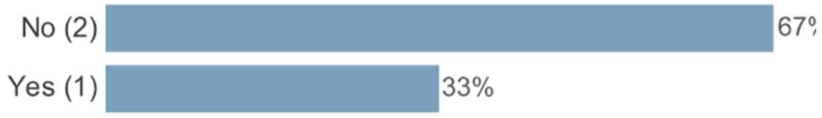
If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)



If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Efficiency requires more concentration, fewer councillors, a more effective service and reduced number of boundaries."

"The answer cannot be provided insulation of more facts and figures."

"not without more info

Do you have any further comments?

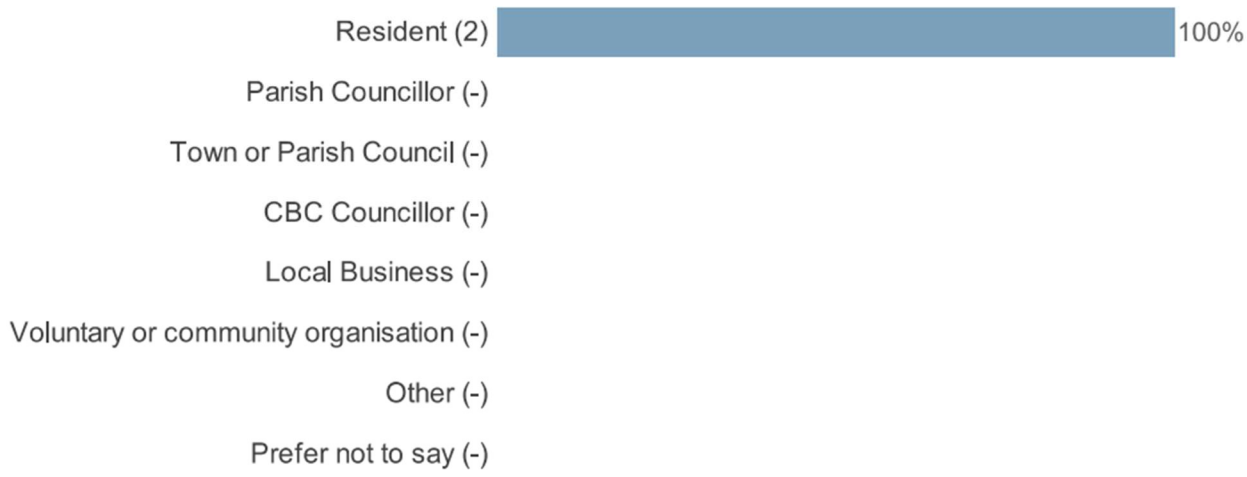
"In the 35 years we have lived in this Parish no Parish Council has successfully achieved a HGV ban, speed limit reduction to 20mph or traffic calming measures from Central Bedfordshire Council."

34. Henlow 3 responses

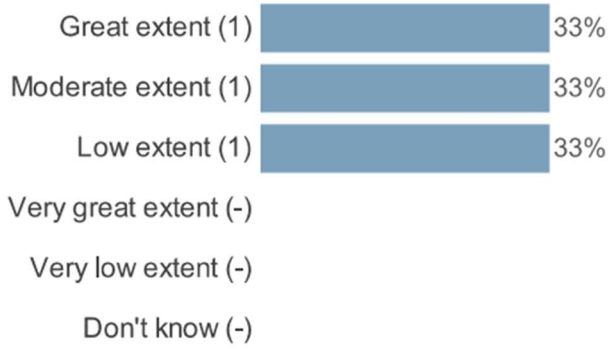
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

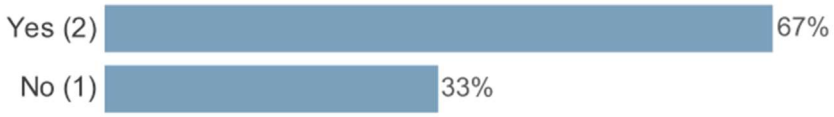
If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"I see no point whatsoever in having Henlow Camp joined with Henlow village. There are absolutely no synergies. Henlow Camp should have its own Parish Council, especially since the number of new homes have been built along the A600- Bedford Road-past the A659 and there are proposals to build by Derwent School and are there still plans to build/convert into living accomodation on Henlow Camp airfield?"

"Henlow Camp is closed to Stondon than Henlow. Would make sense merge or move boundary"

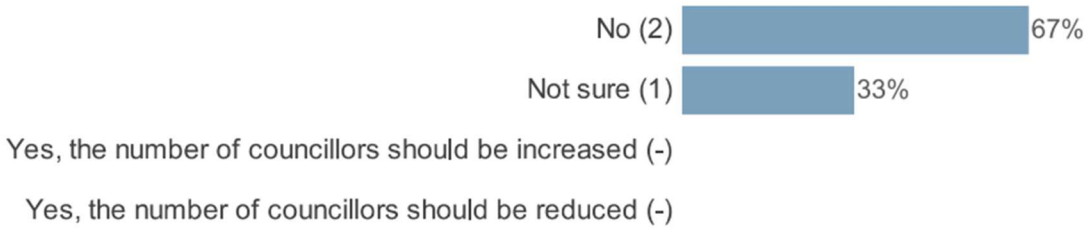
"It makes no sense that Henlow Camp residents and businesses to the east of the Hitchin road are in Henlow parish. This is detrimental to Lower Stondon village as it cuts it in half. They should be moved into Stondon parish so that we can take decisions on the future of our village together."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?



If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:
"Henlow Village & Camp."

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

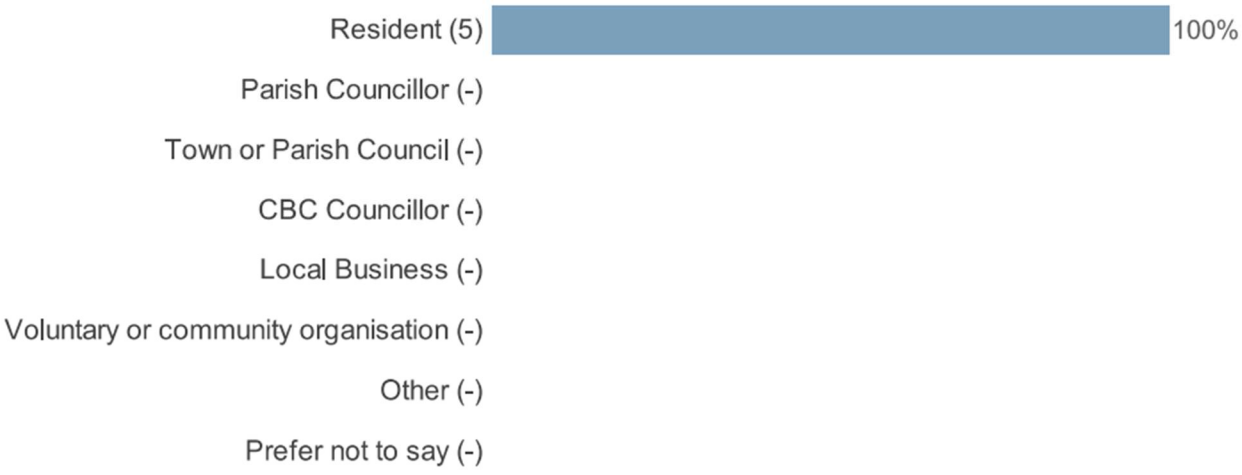
"No, but why does CBC not have a roving observer who can report on the condition of roads, signs for street/highway lamps not working, verges, pathways, public footpaths, community land, rubbish and waste etc?"

35. Hockliffe 5 responses

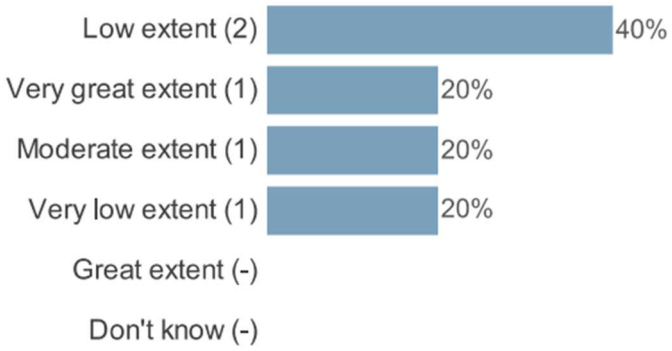
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

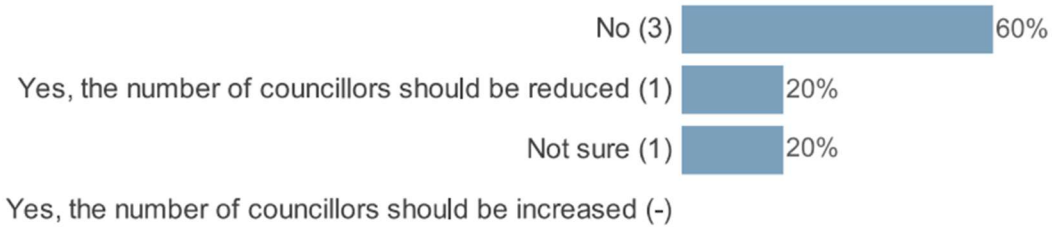
"Hockliffe has always struggled to achieve its seven parish councillor positions, there are currently only four and they are always asking people to apply for co-option but rarely with any success. Councillors rarely have time outside of meetings to get things done, and issues tend to remain on the agenda for months on end. A larger, merged area may achieve a higher number of quality applicants. I think there is a good case for Hockliffe, Battlesden, Heath & Reach and Tilsworth parish councils to be merged . They each have overlapping issues."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"As they surround Leighton Linslade Town Council, perhaps several locally merged Parish Councils could be entitled "Leighton Villages East" and "Leighton Villages West" etc."

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"As the required 7 councillors is rarely achieved, perhaps it should be reduced to 4 and merged with others as already stated."

"Merge Hockliffe, Heath & Reach, Battlesden and Tilsworth."

"Likely to be better quality candidates in a larger area."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Do not think this will alter anything. Not worth the expense - waste of our Council Tax. There is very little interest taken in the village now by the residents, I feel, compared with years ago. Very sad!"

"Communication from parish council has diminished massively over the past 12-18 months, with little to no consultation with residents. There is no forward thinking regarding the parish, and the future the residents wish to see develop in the area. Parish lacks identity and belief from residents."

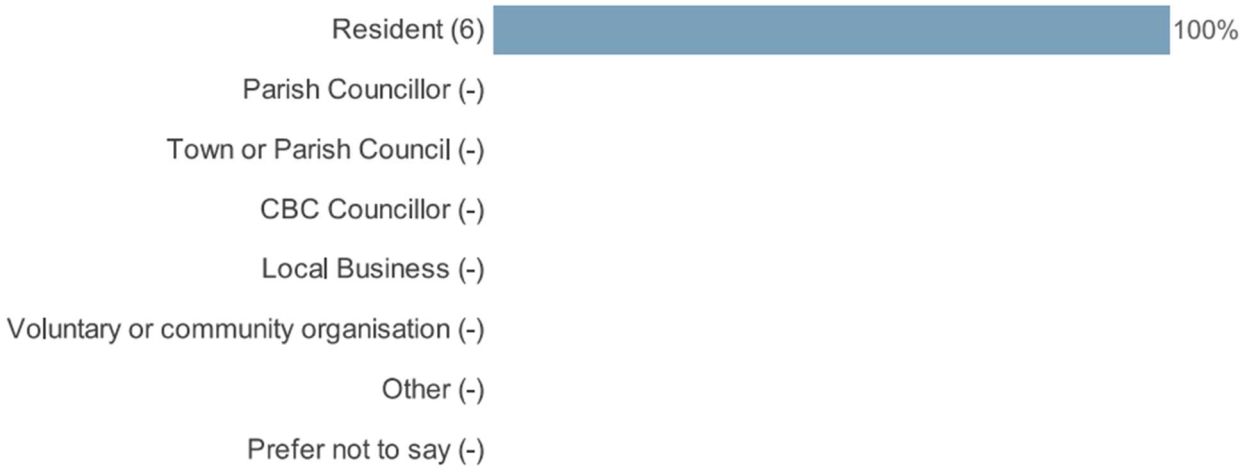
"You shouldn't change it, particularly to include other villages as it has its own distinct character as a long established transport link community"

36. Houghton Conquest 6 responses

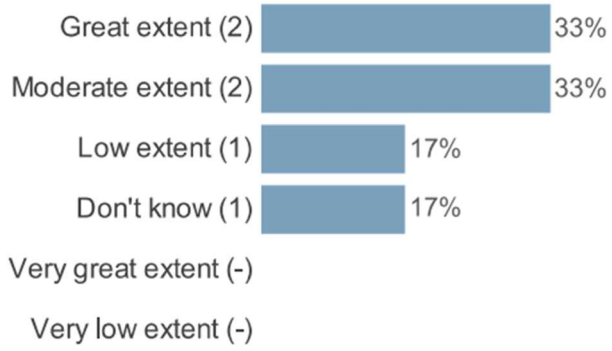
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

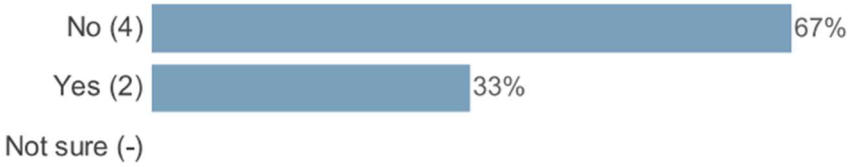
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"All the new estates built in the last 10 years are disconnected from the old village and have very little input into village life."

"The volume of new houses vs the old village creates many issues in view of geographical elements. Such as estate living to village living"

"It now includes the fringe parts of the Wixam development known as Harrowden Green. Whilst this may appear attractive in the sense of increasing the electoral roll and rate precept it also distorts the village and parish of Houghton Conquest. Crime rates have greatly increased where Harrowden Green figures are included in the village numbers. It is clear that the Wixams development is more than encroaching on the village and parish of Houghton Conquest, it is in danger of swallowing it. A 'community' council is a likely outcome by default. This may be seen as 'good' from certain perspectives, but the reality of the Wixams evelopment is major housing and absolute failure to deliver the concomitant social improvements such as the railway station an health care facilites as planned. Given the Central Beds' housing target from national government is a negative one, ie target already achieved and exceeded, more development is not required. However the current development plans for the area, including the proposed Universal Studios site, suggests otherwise. Rate precepts will soar, councils will swell; but what of local services and infrastructure? Wixams has not delivered, it is far from clear that future developments will be better regulated and managed. Houghton Conquest needs a voice that represents the village. Merges with other groups will only lead to loss of identity, history and

community to the greater swamp of urban sprawl. Note below: A button to upload files to support change: no button for files to oppose change. This is revealing!"

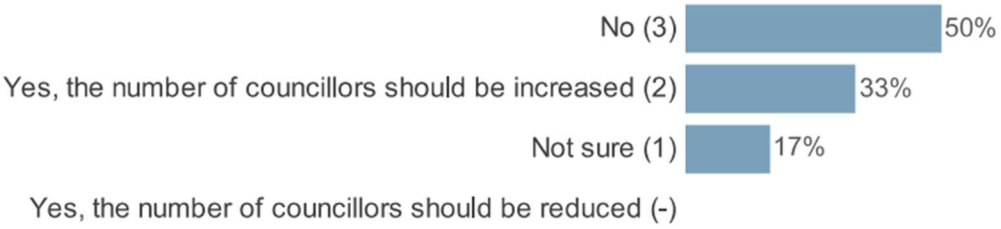
"To not include Wixams, which was never agreed to be part of Houghton Conquest. And our village would also be kept seperate, this also refers to the inclusion of the new development around Great Thickthorn Farm where, again, we were promised the village boundary would be maintained by inserting a large area of woodland down & across from Bedford Road across to Great Thickthorn Farm."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"It doesn't need a new name. It does not need to include Harrowden Green from the Wixams. Harrowden Green should remain part of the Wixams community and Houghton Conquest should retain its historic and community identity."

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?

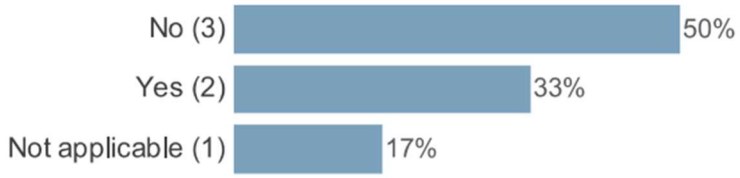


If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"The population is expected to double, so I would suggest an uplift of at least 50%"

"By a small margin if no geographical boundary changes are made. This will allow for councillors from new estates."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Part of 'new' Houghton Conquest is swallowed up/surrounded by the Wixams and has nothing to do with the actual village."

"Between old village and new estates such as Wixams"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"This requires a far mor detailed and HONEST representation of Central Bedfordshire's Development for the next 20 years, including the impact of the Universal Studio Site. The Wiams. central government strategy, transport policy, both local and national infrastructure, need to be envisioned and explained. Change is inevitable and much good for the local communities will

arise from them. However, historic and genuinely local communities need not, inevitably, be swamped by the unrelenting pace of building developments that WILL occur."

"The parish council of Houghton Conquest do a really good job & have all the parishioners at the centre of every decision. But, however much they try they don't appear to be listened to by Central Bedfordshire Council, especially when it comes to planning. There appears to have been many times when the parish council has raised legitimate objections, especially to large scale developments, on behalf of the residents, only to not be listened to or heard. I do wonder if anyone from CBC actually takes notice of anything parish councils & residents say, because the whole heritage of our village is being eroded massively by these new unwanted mass housing areas. Do any of you actually live in this village? Because I think if you did the parish council would actually be listened to and the promised large boundaries would actually happen & the village's entity would be maintained. CBC is eroding history by allowing this to happen, & not gaining a good reputation after it has renegaded on so many promises. Our councillor, Becky Hares, does her best to get Houghton Conquest's voice heard, but to little effect as CBC appear to just go through the motions & pretend to listen & then ride roughshod through it with their own plans. So many times CBC have asked for residents views but to then take notice notice, it then means that the residents of Houghton Conquest believe that all of this is a 'tick-box' exercise & no notice is taken of what anyone wants to say. I understand from our councillor that CBC believe everyone in the village is ok with CBC's decisions as no one says anything - that is because we are all worn down with not being listened to & I personally wonder what is the point of commenting as nothing changes, the villager's views are not considered & CBC will just do what it wants. So PLEASE take note of comments & views of the villager's here. We are trying to maintain the historical nature of our village with the beautiful woods & environment surrounding, but fighting against the ever closing boundaries that CBC is allowing which is destroying this village."

"The whole of the parish of Houghton Conquest should have the same doctors/school catchment areas. Our voices clearly don't matter, as we were made promises about our boundaries/protecting our village yet the developments continue!!"

37. Houghton Regis 10 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

At the HRTC town council meeting held on 14 May 2025 its formal response to CBC on this initial CGR consultation, reflecting on the deliberations of the nominated councillors and the discussion held with Chalton parish council. The following resolution was agreed:

Alteration – Houghton Regis Town Council (HRTC) wishes to suggest that that part of Chalton Parish Council's land bounded by the Houghton Regis parish boundary, the Luton Borough

Council boundary, the M1 motorway and the A5-M1 link road (Dunstable Northern Bypass) be transferred into the parish of Houghton Regis.

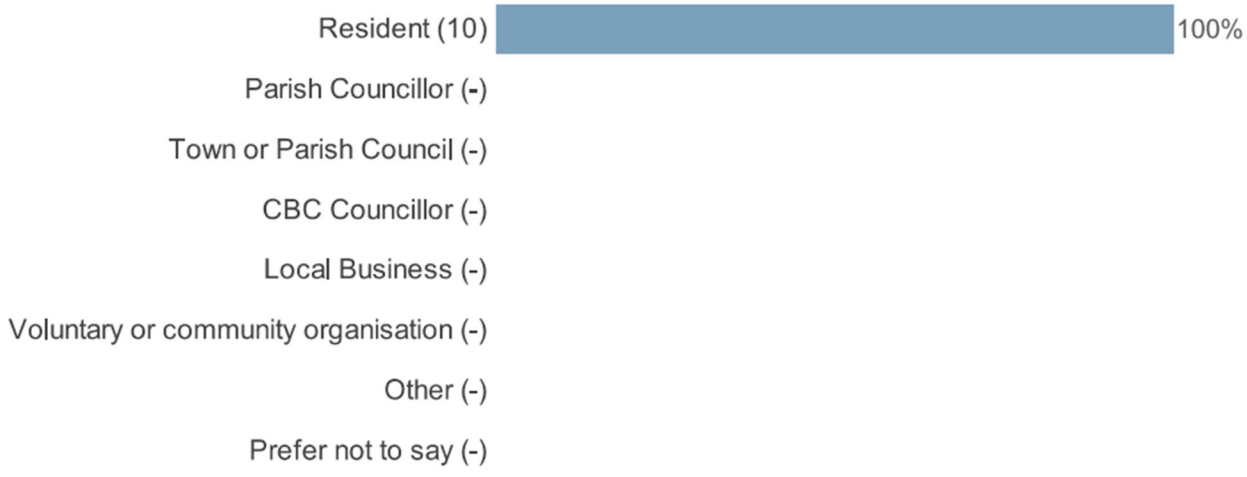
Number of councillors – to ensure adequate demographic representation given the population growth of Houghton Regis it is requested that the number of Houghton Regis parish councillors be increased to 16 (from 14).

Parish warding – given the recent growth of Houghton Regis, a fourth ward to cover the growth area of Bidwell would support suitable demographic representation. This new ward should be named Thorn Ward as it is reflective of the historic name for this area. The suggested ward boundary would be from Bedford Road following the line of the public right of way to Blue Waters.

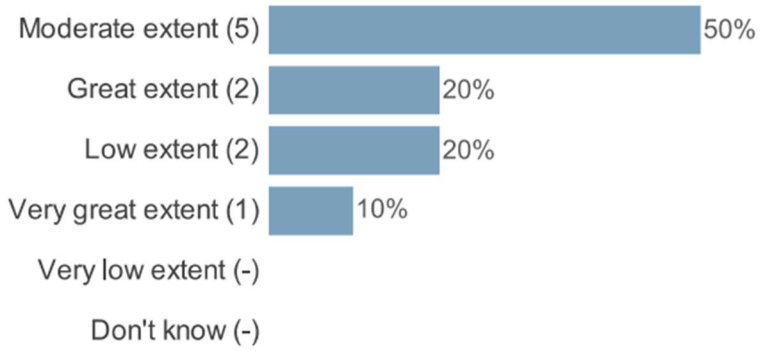
At this time HRTC are unable to comment on how 16 councillors should be split across the four wards (as proposed) as CBC have not released population or electorate data in support of the CGR process. HRTC request that HRTC councillors be split across the proposed four wards as evenly as possible such that each councillor represents the same number of electorate.

Parish Warding - Democratic Services Comment
The current polling district HH1 has 3045 properties and 4251 electors. The creation of a new polling district to incorporate all the new development and a small number of the properties in Bedford Road would have 2249 properties with a further 283 planned over the next 5 years making a total of 2532. This would generate a forecast electorate 4304 electors which could served by 3 members (2 new and the reduction of 1 member of the existing HH polling district (5 to 4).

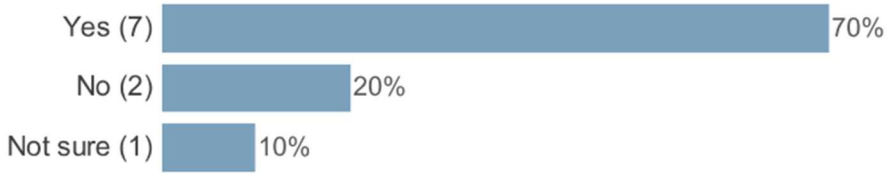
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



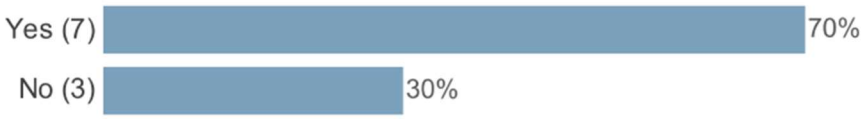
If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Houghton Hall Ward is currently too big for the number of councillors due to growth in Thorn/ Bidwell West. We either need a new ward for Thorn/Bidwell West or a split of Houghton Hall Ward. More Town Councillors needed to cover growth in population."

"Have more councillors per ward including the new estates"

"Swell in population"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?



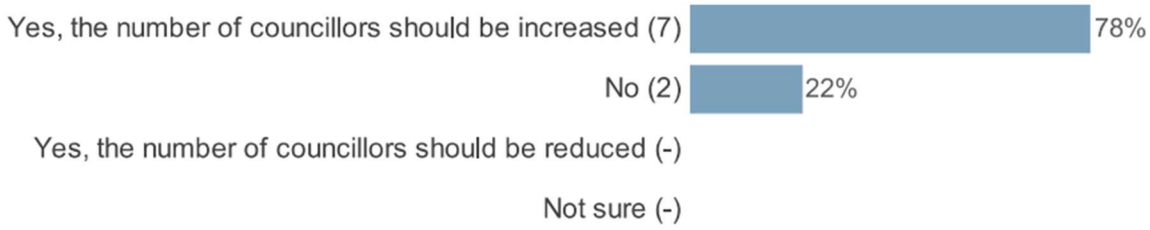
If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Houghton Park"

"The name of the ward gives the impression that all households within the Tithe Farm area are all part of the ward which is not true"

"Swollen population"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Not sure on numbers but the reason is that it would give a bigger presence in the wider council."

"To a number that caters for the substantial population growth"

"Due to the number of new home being built in the area it is important to include them and have a council member on the main council frame"

"The town has grown in size"

"20, areas need more councillors as if area is too big, they won't be able to help everyone. More councillors means more help to community members"

"3+ swollen population"

"The need to be working towards the same end and not be at each others necks. If the boundaries were removed everyone would have to work together to achieve a goal for the whole community instead of the selected areas"

"5 swollen population"

"8 Councillors for HHall Ward 2 or 3 for Bidwell West Possible incorporate Chalton"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Thorn, Linmere, etc"

"Need to have wards for Thorn, Limner Nothr and South and Flamsted."

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Mingimumof two extra councillors for Houghton Hall Ward and two or three new Councillors for Bidwell West"

"increase from 14 to 20."

"The boundaries tend to make people think that anything that needs to change is only a good for their part of the town where they live where's it is east to benefit the whole community of the town. Boundaries do not encourage inclusion"

"Bidwell and Thorn should become separate wards. Need more councillors per ward"

"Remove all boundaries for the parish councils and have one whole parish with many councilors"

"Bidwell and Thorn should remain separate and independent"

"Not in favour of doing another change of wards but do think there should be more councillors per ward"

"Chalton could be included in Houghton Regis"

Do you have any further comments?

"The Town Council do a wonderful job, the Councillors are always on hand to speak with if needed. Susan Goodchild has always been approachable and very knowledgeable about Houghton Regis."

" The Councillors are in touch with the area as they live here and understand the everyday running of Houghton Regis."

38. Hulcote & Salford No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

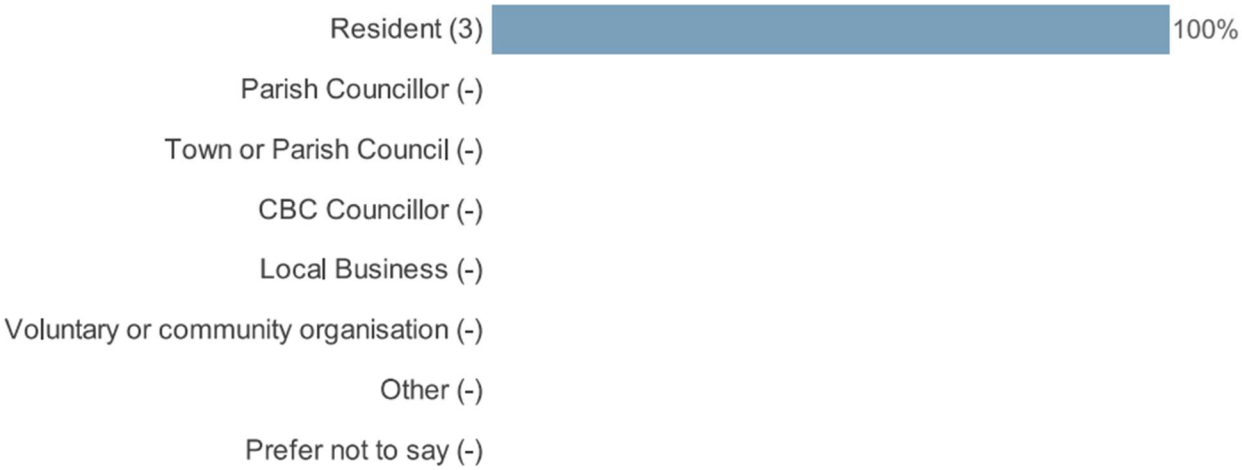
No proposal received.

39. Husborne Crawley 3 responses

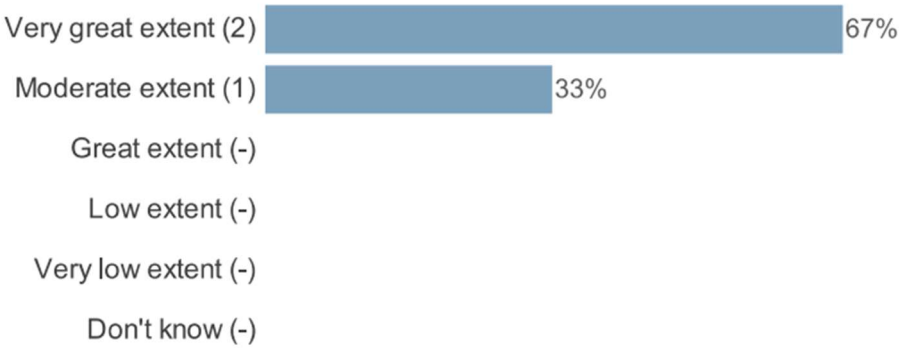
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

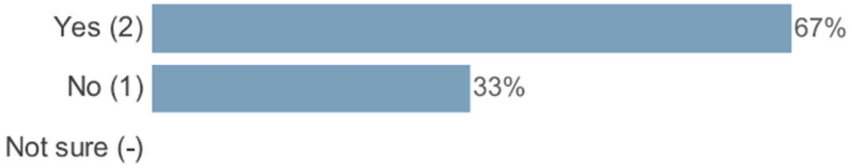
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

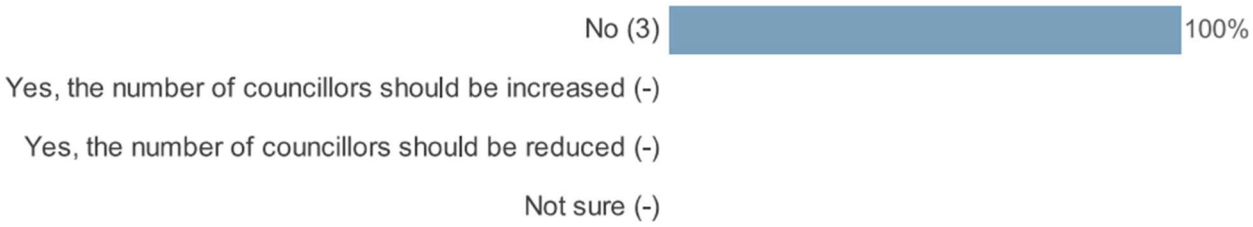


If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"It's too small an area and apart from planning the only real function is the management of a small playground. I was a Parish Councillor and Chair for several years but there was never really anything for us to do."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Having two tier local government only makes sense if the lower tier is able to provide services and take actions that require very specific local knowledge. In very small parishes the issues that cause concern (traffic, grass cutting, road and footpath maintenance) etc are all outside the control of the parish council which means that all councillors can do is pass the concerns of residents up the line to Central Beds councillors. Pretty pointless really!"

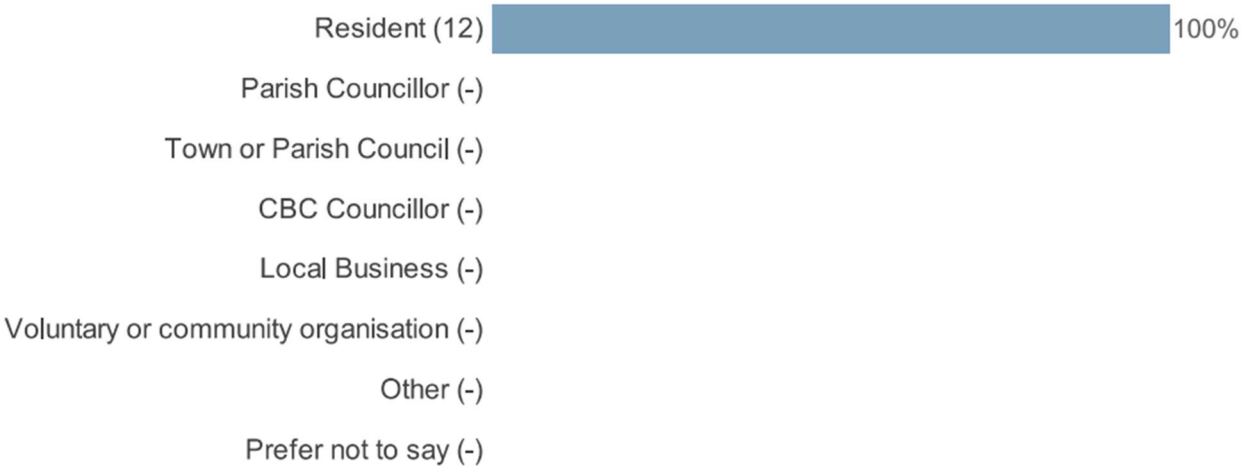
"Poor communications the villagers have no idea when the P.C hold meetings there is one notice board .the village is decided it two parts it needs another notice board near Horsepool lane so residents are informed poor web site no idea who the councillors are"

40. Hyde 12 responses

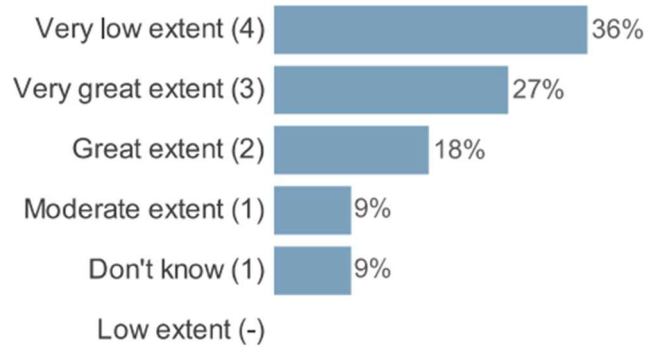
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Specifically I am in the east Hyde parish which borders herfordshire, I believe our parish should join the neighbouring herts parish. The main reason for this is the vast majority of the residents use the herts county services, like school, doctors, dentists etc but pay nothing into the herts council tax pot. On the flip side we feel completely isolated from central beds where we use no services and feel like an after thought on the most menial services like having our grass cut regularly."

"Once devolution takes place and the local councils across counties are one tier, it makes absolute sense for Hyde to be part of Hertfordshire. Our GPs, schools, gym, local amenities are all in Hertfordshire. We have no identity with Central Bedfordshire and we would like the boundary to be changed to incorporate us into Hertfordshire. The current and very old boundary is redundant."

"I live in a group of six houses across the road is a different council the bin men have to make an extra trip to get to us and the boundary makes no sense."

"No , while the parish itself is fine - the fact it is in central beds is laughable . We spend all our time and money in harpenden as that's where we live ! The fact you didn't even get the parish name correct speaks volumes - it's East Hyde"

"Central Bedfordshire Council is not relevant to Hyde Parish. As a community, Hertfordshire serves our needs better. We want the county boundary changed to reflect the needs of our community. Please clarify how Central Bedfordshire services apply to Hyde."

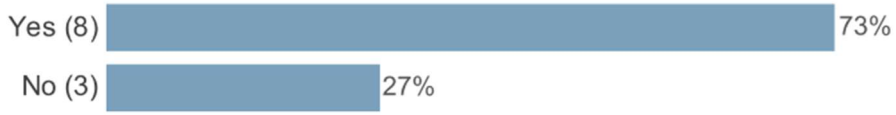
"Central Bedfordshire Council is not relevant to Hyde Parish. As a community, Hertfordshire serves our needs better. We want the county boundary changed to reflect the needs of our community. Please clarify how Central Bedfordshire services apply to Hyde

"My property sits within Harpenden but is part of East Hyde. Our day to day lives are around Harpenden but we are not within upper school catchment and cannot influence or requests changes to services."

"We can't access any facilities without going through a different authority first. Proximity means all services we access are in Herts, specifically Harpenden. The additional cost of refuse collection etc for the council is not recovered in council tax. Moving Hyde into Hertfordshire would be more appropriate for the local residents and for geography."

"We would like to seriously consider moving Hyde Parish into Hertfordshire."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?



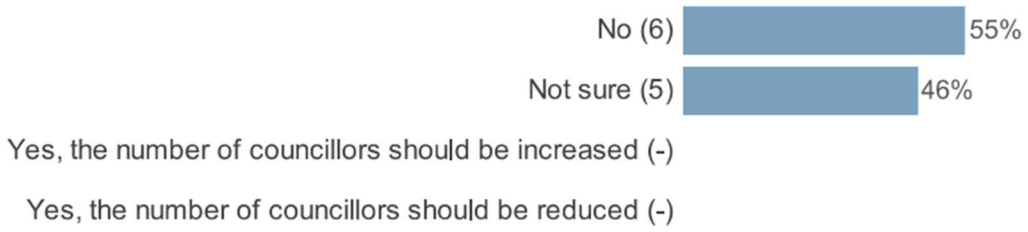
If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Harpenden or Kinsbourne Green"

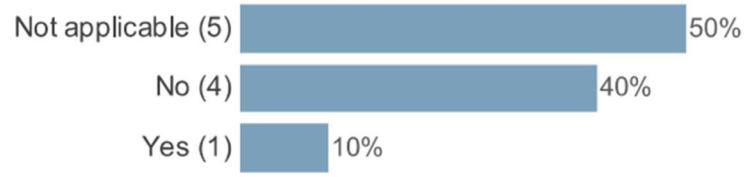
"Central Bedfordshire Council is not relevant to Hyde Parish. As a community, Hertfordshire serves our needs better. We want the county boundary changed to reflect the needs of our community. Please clarify how Central Bedfordshire services apply to Hyde."

"The Mills"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

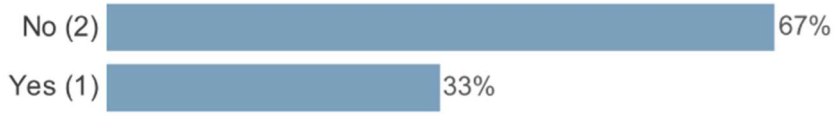


If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

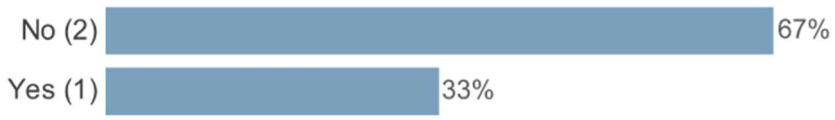
"Central Bedfordshire Council is not relevant to Hyde Parish. As a community, Hertfordshire serves our needs better. We want the county boundary changed to reflect the needs of our community. Please clarify how Central Bedfordshire services apply to Hyde"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)



If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"The Harrow and perhaps other houses to the North East of Luton Road in Kinsbourne Green / Harpenden should become pert of Harpenden."

Do you have any further comments?

"I would like to suggest we should be part of Hertfordshire. I think the boundary is the end of my street and I have always felt far more connected to Harpenden and St Albans than to Luton. I know very little about the parish governance and how it works, but for our needs (eg the tip, council meeting etc), it would be far closer and easier to be linked with Harpenden, in my opinion. I have no complaints about Bedfordshire, other than distance. Thank you."

"As a community we are on the edge of a county and it's very difficult to feel any connection with our current council as we don't use any of the services provided and payed for by us currently. Our children go to Hertfordshire schools and we use the libraries, doctors of Herts. I strongly believe we should be paying into the community pot to which we use the services of. I think our parish provides a vital link to the community and council but feel very removed from the current central beds council."

"I will be submitting a full response in due course. Hyde does not identify with Central Bedfordshire and needs a boundary change. It makes no sense for us to be part of Central Bedfordshire. The current boundary is historical and political. A boundary change will better reflect The Hyde Community. We pay our council taxes and want it to better reflect the services we use. Policing, ambulance , waste disposal, schools, doctors in Hertfordshire serve the needs of Hyde residents. The community and I currently speak for over 50% (and growing) want to know how Central Bedfordshire intends to deal with Hyde."

"Having six new houses that have to be services by Central Beds and the children living in it have to travel out of town to go to school is nonsense."

"It makes me quite angry that we are part of central beds. We are already a totally forgotten area - the grass outside our houses never even gets cut as you can't be bothered . And this is even before the reorganisation takes place - we will then become an even more forgotten area . We pay a lot of money in council tax for nothing - we are serviced completely by harpenden. Our kids go to school there , we shop there , use all services etc . We live there ! We have an AL5 postcode - it's non-sensicle ! The fact that we live about 5 metres from the county boundary -

can see in the windows across the road of 'Hertfordshire ' , and therefore my children will not get into a Harpenden secondary even though they have attended Harpenden school since nursery is so unfair and angering . I'm really not sure what we are paying our central beds council tax for ....."

"Hyde parish does not share a border with any other parish in Bedfordshire and is very distant from Central Bedfordshire.I believe there could be a better fit"

"Central Bedfordshire Council is not relevant to Hyde Parish. As a community, Hertfordshire serves our needs better. We want the county boundary changed to reflect the needs of our community. Please clarify how Central Bedfordshire services apply to Hyde."

"I do not feel any association with CBC, my life and my families life are more aligned with Hertfordshire. We live on the tail end of the county and are totally dissociated from it, even the staff at Chicksands do not know were we are."

"Central Bedfordshire Council is not relevant to Hyde Parish. As a community, Hertfordshire serves our needs better. We want the county boundary changed to reflect the needs of our community. Please clarify how Central Bedfordshire services apply to Hyde" (this a separate submission to the one with the same wording above)

"To reiterate. East Hyde should be come part of Hertfordshire and our specific property should really be part of a Harpenden parish but moving to Herts would be a significant and beneficial step."

"Economic and Geographic logic would move Hyde to Hertfordshire. For representation and servicing the residents it would also fit historic and current patterns of behaviour."

"We feel that Hyde Parish is a bit lost & neglected in the size & scale of Central Bedfordshire Council. We want the boundary changed, to join Herts, which undoubtedly would better reflect & improve local community needs."

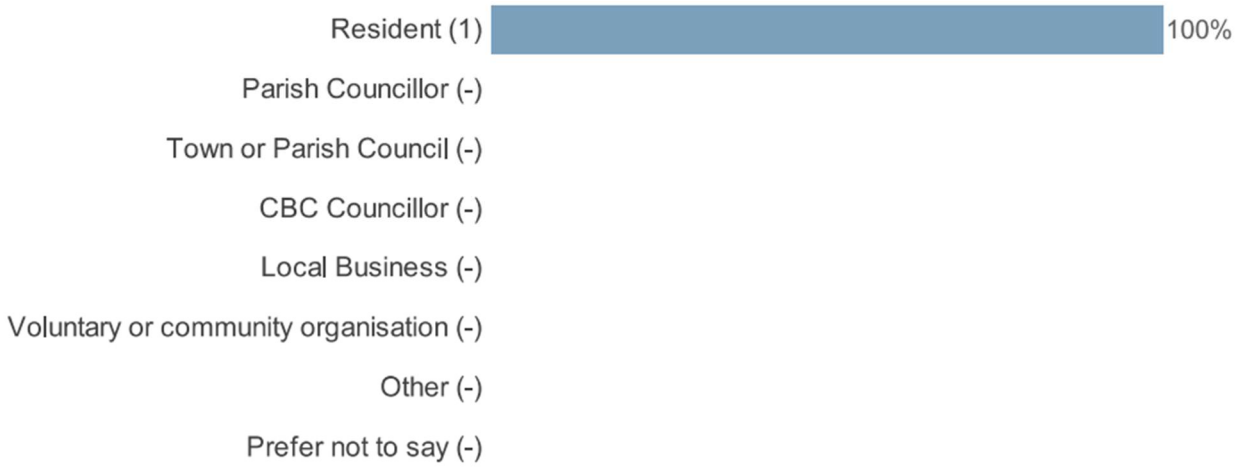
41. Kensworth 1 response (plus a written letter response from Kensworth Parish Council)

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

We also received a letter responding to the consultation from Kensworth Parish Council, this can be found in full in the Appendix to this report.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

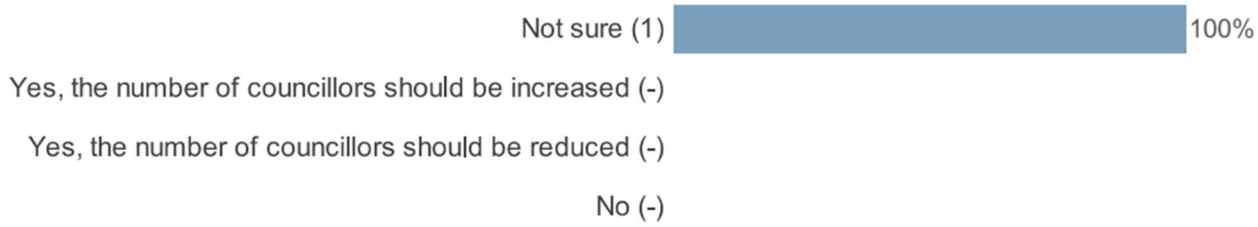


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

42. Langford 10 responses

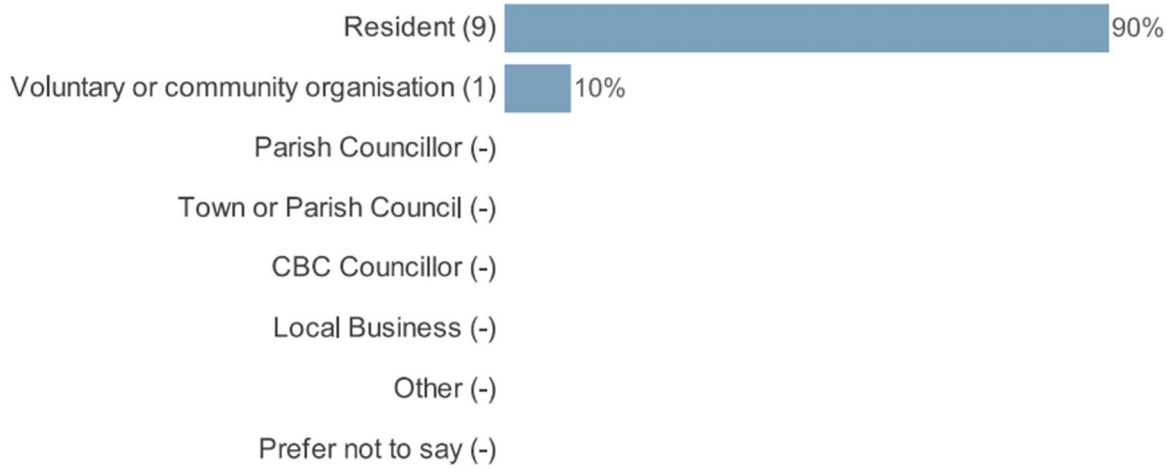
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Review of property anomalies

The property Brook Cottage is in a polling district of the parish of Langford but is geographically in the parish of Biggleswade Holme Ward. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly.

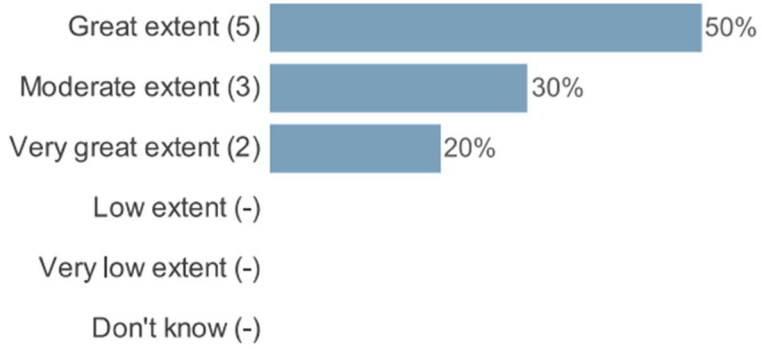
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If voluntary or community organisation, please specify:

"St andrews church"

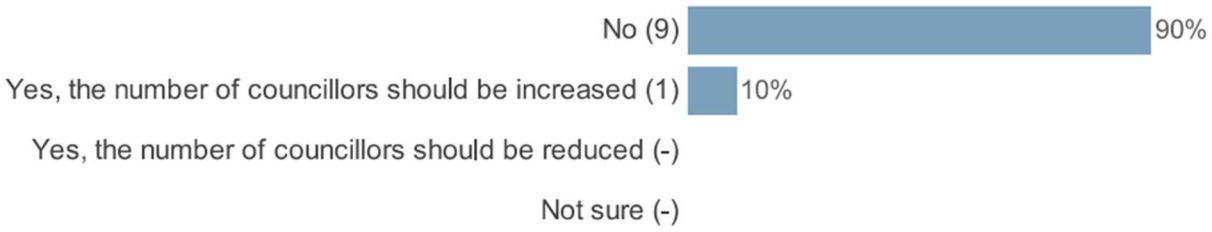
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"We only have one who attends meetings and represents the village"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"As Brook Cottage is linked neighbouring properties in Langford Parish and not near any properties in Holme (?), it would be logical to keep it in Langford Parish, even if it means the

boundary going round the property to include it. It is disappointing that the Langford Village Plan isn't given weight when considering planning application approval. I am also surprised but pleased that the number of residents is only likely to increase by 400 by 2030. It hopefully means that village can get the infrastructure to catch up with the new building areas eg school, GPs etc."

"I think Langford Parish Council does a very good job for the village. However, it needs more volunteer Councillors and fresh blood. Where is the incentive for these people to come forward, when the unelected officers of CBC have a track record of either ignoring the clear views of the villagers or misrepresenting them to Government Planning Inspectors?? If you want to really talk about Community Governance then you should start by reviewing the performance of unelected officers and their attention to residents clear and stated views."

"People live or come to live in a village because it is a village,not because they want it expanded into a town.dont keep trying to lump everybody into one."

"It's all very well talking about Parish Councils. My primary concern is that they have minimal influence over how Section 106 agreements are negotiated and agreed as conditions of granting Planning Permission to major Developers. I understand that "decisions" are made at Central Beds level and that financial details are "commercially sensitive" but it is not at all clear that there is ANY WAY in which the needs for facilities are presented and traded off. As a for instance it seems there is NO public/parish lawn tennis provision in Stotfold despite the fact that this is more tha TWICE the size of Langford; and Langford's only facilities (tennis & playing fields) were provided by privated donation/bequest decades (if not more than a century) ago when the village was a small fraction of its current population."

"Langford needs to retain its Parish Council, as we no real identity within CBC, and we are totally isolated in the Parliamentary Constituency with services provided over the parliamentary boundary. We have nothing in common with Hitchin, and very little with Shefford. At least our Parish Coiuncil seeks to serve the community of Langford when no one else does."

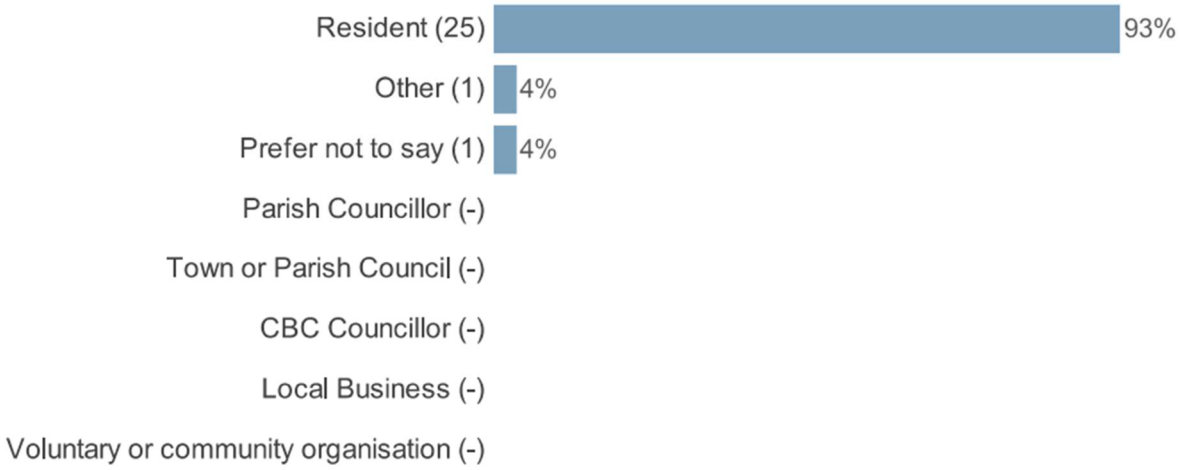
43. Leighton-Linslade 32 responses (plus a joint councillor written letter response)

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

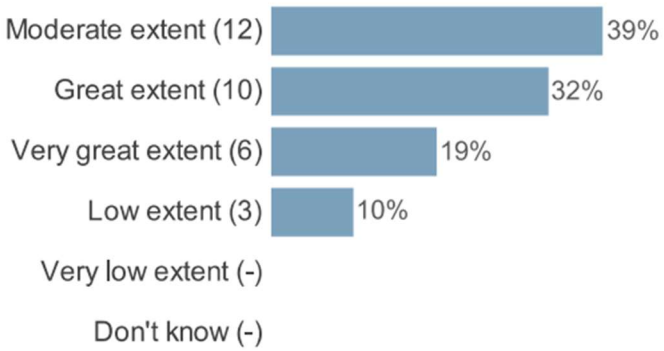
No proposal received.

We also received a letter from joint cllrs responding from Leighton-Linslade to the consultation, this can be found in full in the Appendix to this report.

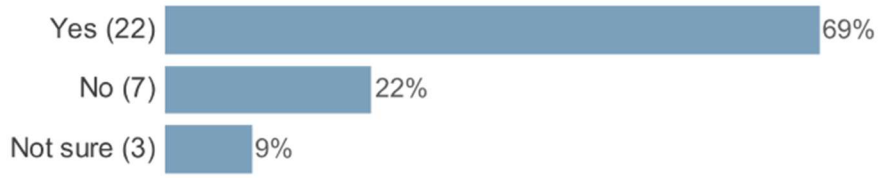
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Merge some of the smaller local villages/ parishes into the town Council"

" boundaries do not take into account all the new buildings"

"Given eastward expansion of the town significant parts of Eggington Parish should be reclassified as Leighton-Linslade. The people who live in these development use Leighton-Linslade services and the houses themselves are sold as "Leighton - Linslade" homes."

"There a huge new estates of houses built in recent years. These do not come under Leighton Linslade, though the residents will use the town's facilities. Much of this development is currently in the parish of Eggington."

"Decision about the developments in Leighton Buzzard appear to be made by people who seem to have no care or regard for the town's needs I often wonder if these decision making persons have ever been or know what Leighton Buzzard is like. The residents of my town submit objections to building schemes and loss of amenities but we are not heard and the developers bulldoze on regardless ruining the quality of life and appearance of this once thriving and pretty market town. We see little return for our rates."

"Current boundaries need updating to reflect the new housing estates. Maybe the existing parish needs to be subdivided"

"A large number of new houses have been built to extend the town on its eastern side but a lot of these houses are in Egginton parish. The boundary should be changed to reflect this since none of the new houses are close to the village of Egginton"

"New housing developments outside the Parish (Clipstone - Eggington?) are using services paid for by Leighton-Linslade residents"

"Home built within the urban sprawl should be within the parish"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

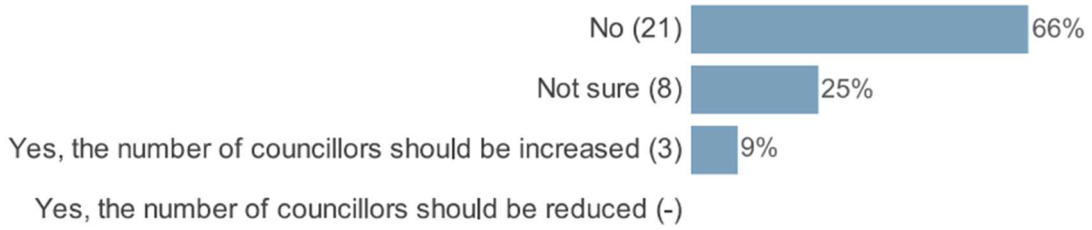
If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Leighton Buzzard and Linslade Town Council"

"Leighton-Linslade is meaningless because both were formerly historic towns in their own right with considerable local loyalties(one originally being in Bedfordshire; the other in Buckinghamshire and Leightonians and Linsladers have fierce local loyalties. Then they were merged into one Urban District Council, whose powers were mostly removed in 1974 when Leighton-Linslade was reduced to the legal status of a parish, it's former powers being exercised

by a remote concoction of a District, a bureaucratic invention(I refer to Central Bedfordshire. The name of Leighton-Linslade at least preserves historical continuity; it is Central Bedfordshire which needs to disappear and some of its power devolved to Leighton-Linslade. But that aint going to happen, is it?"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"The disparity in the ratio of councillors to residents is 5x the Ctrl Beds average - that's not exactly how democracy should work."

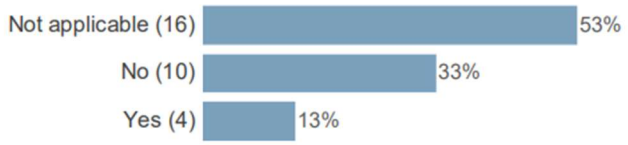
"The number of councillors per resident is much above average and only going to increase with more residents. Young people 16-25 particularly are not well represented or catered for in Leighton-Linslade. Immigrants as well are not represented, I think due to fear of racism, islamophobia, etc. in Bedfordshire which is a well founded fear. With a larger council, we could have more diversity of representation."

"Increase in population due to new homes"

"In general, the ward boundaries should take into account a number of community boundary lines and sizes - particularly with the new residential areas built. For the ward I am in St Barnabas - I would feel more affiliated to a smaller ward based on the streets surrounding Stoke Road - from the point of view of knowing each other - this is an easier number to know and care for. We could also focus then more on issues concerning us eg the speed of traffic on Stoke Road, the lack of play areas for children and protecting the trees which help cool down our whole end of the valley. I would also like to see the Rivers and Canal represented on the council. In living indigenous cultures rivers are represented - if we could consider the River Ouzel and Clipstone Brook and Canal as a ward with the inhabitants as fish, kingfishers etc then we could better care for it as a community and in return be cared for by it - can you imagine how wonderful it would be to have rivers thriving with wildlife again and wetland areas which prevent flooding? Even places for people to enjoy the water and wildlife watch. At the moment, the rivers are polluted and prone to flooding and we are too divided around it to be able to respond. When I

have mentioned something on Facebook I have been attacked and told to leave the community as if someone powerful is happy that there is a lack of action and representation."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Egginton developments need their own ward."

"Egginton has developments that are adjacent to Leighton Linslade. Thought needs to be given as to whether they are included in Leighton Linslade Parish."

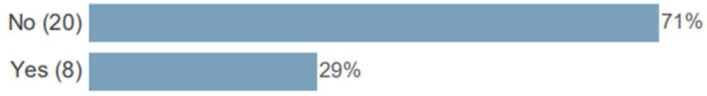
"I think 3 to 4 councillors is enough for a ward."

"Boundary to include all development adjacent to Leighton Linslade."

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)



If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"You've eroded this market town's sense of community, with unsustainable expansion to the east of the town, abdicating any responsibility for infrastructure needs, including GP & Dental provision. In just 40 years, the population has doubled in size."

"Amend to fit the new housing estates and exclude areas where there is no longer housing/ residential"

"There should be a single ward covering the whole town"

"Include all new housing in Leighton Buzzard"

"I think all wards in Leighton-Linslade should go up by 3-5 councillors each to get them to average of 300 residents per councillor - that is closer to the number of people that one person can get to know. Some of those wards should be split up - I can't speak for other wards as I don't know them as well but for St Barnabas - we should have a split so that the roads all adjoining Stoke Road inc Bossington Lane, St Martins etc. are in one ward. I think the Rivers - Ouzel and Clipstone Brook - should be represented as a Ward which all residents of Leighton-Linslade get to vote on but only contains non-human residents. Or you could put it together with the canal and the humans are those who live on the water eg common canal boats - seems fair."

"If Leighton Linslade were to be extende there might be a case for changing the wards and number of councillors."

"Leighton-Linslade is not a village; it's a town of over 40,000 people and it's ridiculous to refer to it as a parish. Enough said."

"Increased population new homes"

"Egginton adjacent to Leighton Linslade, 5 councillors."

"Ward boundaries must reflect the recent housing developments"

For new estates which have been placed outside Leighton-Linslade but use services paid for by Leighton Linslade residents eg Clipstone development / East side development."

"Stop splitting roads in two ie number 31 in one parish/ ward and number 33 being in another. I can appreciate that one side of the road might be in one ward and other ie even side being in another ward"

“Given eastward expansion of the town significant parts of Eggington Parish should be reclassified as Leighton-Linslade. The people who live in these development use Leighton-Linslade services and the houses themselves are sold as "Leighton - Linslade" homes.”

“Subject to relevant & fair representation within Leighton-Linslade”

Do you have any further comments?

“Our parish representatives need to look at the quality of our local bus service”

“The Town Council does a good job especially in spaces the County Council does not prioritise or is unable to serve. Additionally, I strongly object to any attempt to abolish the term "Parish" in the forthcoming "review".

“I believe that the councillors age should potentially be taken into account, for example how can an elderly unmarried man with no grandchildren have an any idea of the SEND need in schools.”

“ An age cap on councillors therefore I feel be a good idea”

“I think you need a balance between stability and new people and ideas. I am concerned about substantial outside interests having too much control of town planning.”

“Thank you for asking us.”

“It is an empty exercise and futile because it will not change anything for the better.”

“Local bus service needs improving”

“Think there are more important issues in Leighton Buzzard/Linslade area than the "parish(es) re-naming etc.,.! Community Medical Centre/Hospital//Walk-in Medical Centre, Parking in the High Street to be more "user friendly" and longer times to encourage people to stay/shop.”

“Need to protect parish councils from getting too cliquey by co opting people and publicising elections better.”

"Compared with other towns I have lived in, this one works quite well"

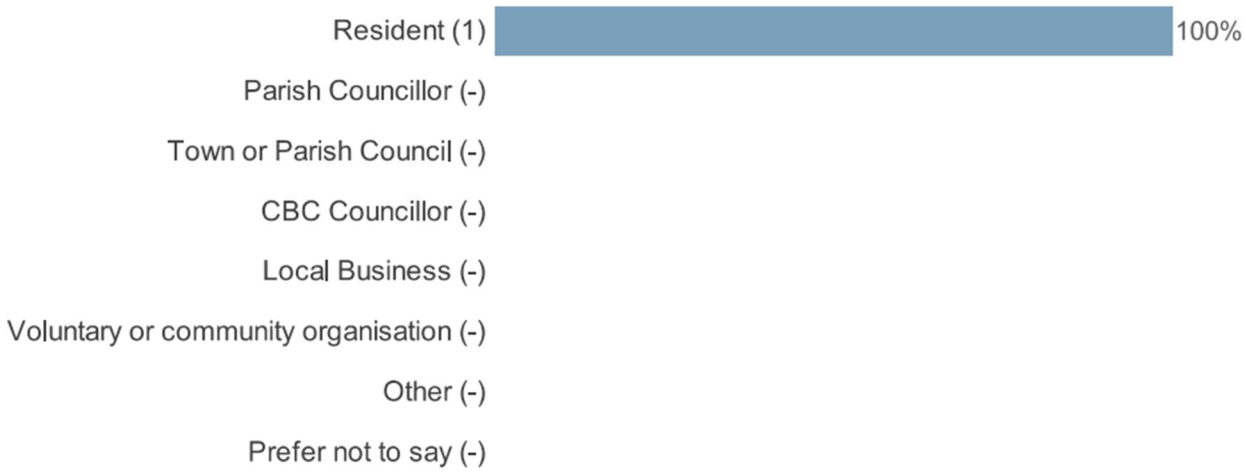
"Perhaps number of L-L councillors could be reviewed in the migration/merging of the two parts she's so there is fair representation and understanding and bonding throughout the new wards/parish"

44. Lidlington 1 response

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

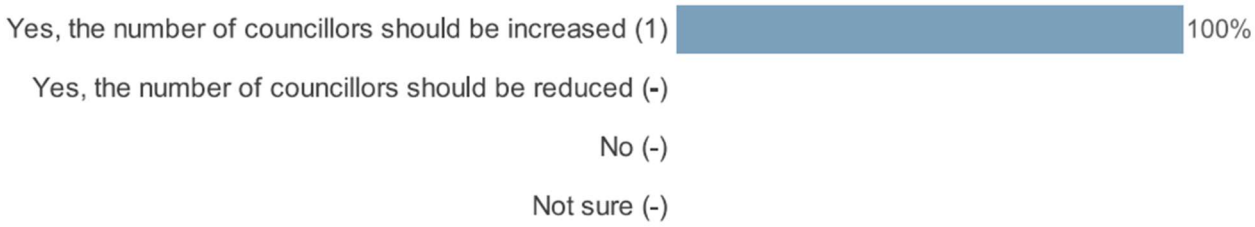


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"One for Lidlington, another for Cranfield"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Separate Lidlington and Cranfield"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)
No answer

Do you have any further comments?

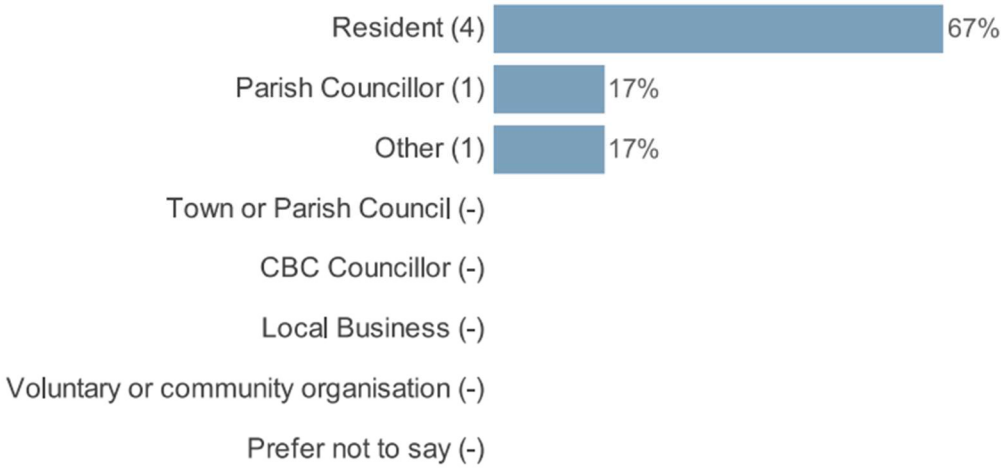
"The residents of Lidlington seem to be voiceless. We've suffered unsuitable development within the village, endure excessive speeds from through-traffic and see outsiders visit and litter or fly tip on our beauty spots."

45. Marston Moreteyne 6 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

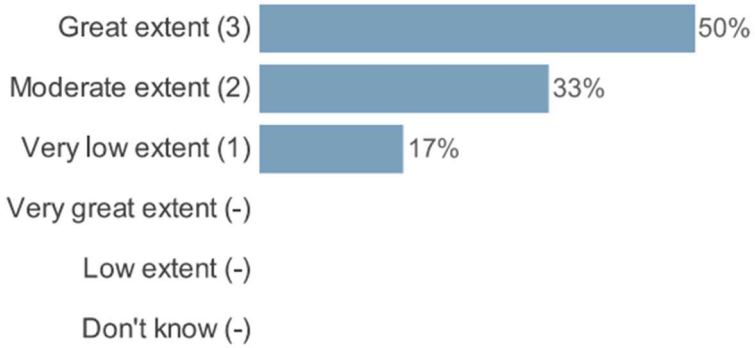


If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?
"Marston Moreteyne"

If other, please specify:

"Neigbourhood Watch Youth Council Representative for Bedfordshire, living in Marston Moreteyne
Also Youth Council member of the Marston Moreteyne Youth Council"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

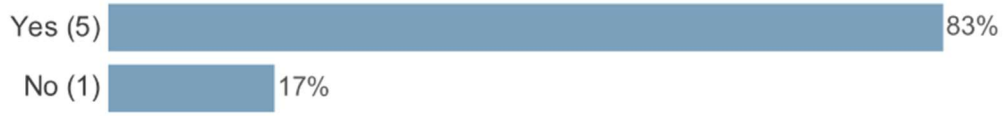


Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"The Parish has effectively been split in two ever since the construction of the new A421 dual carriageway. This has been exacerbated by large scale peripheral new housing developments which do not seem connected or integrated with the Parish"

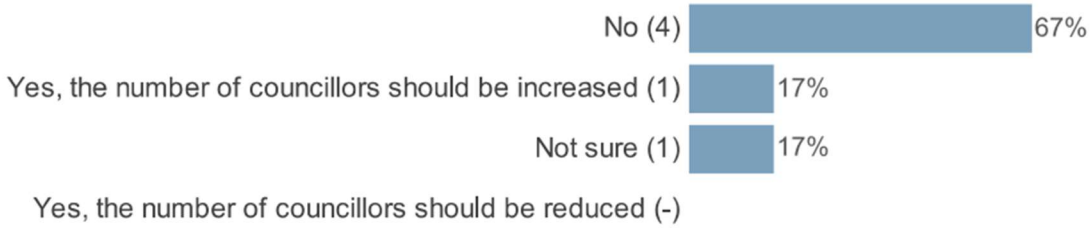
Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?



If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"People mistakenly think the Parish covers Marston and forget surrounding areas like Wood End and the Shelton's which it also serves"

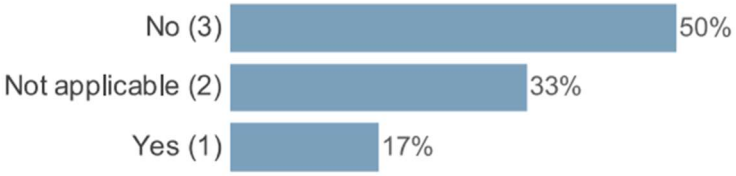
Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"It's 12. It should be 15."

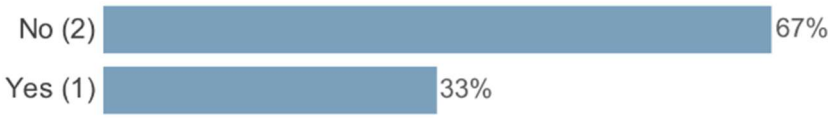
If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



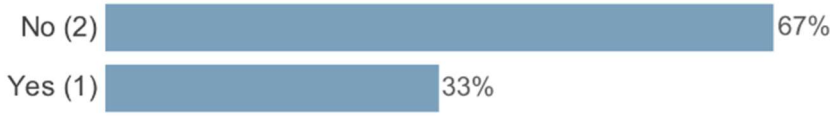
If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"As explained in the answer above having "managed" representation from outlying areas of the Parish would help ensure all views are encompassed"

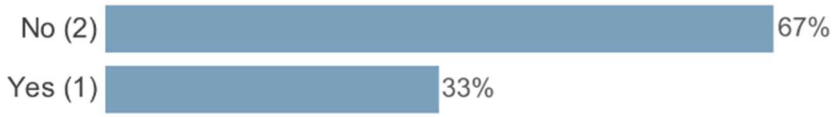
If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)



If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Marston should be on its own rather than lumped with Cranfield"

Do you have any further comments?

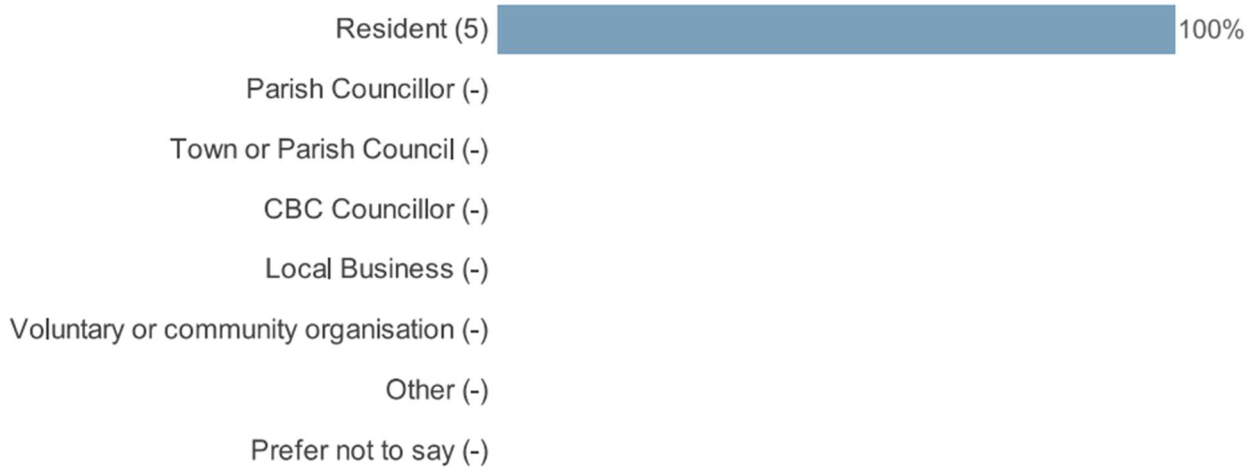
"They are terrible. They do not listen at all too the community."

46. Maulden 5 responses

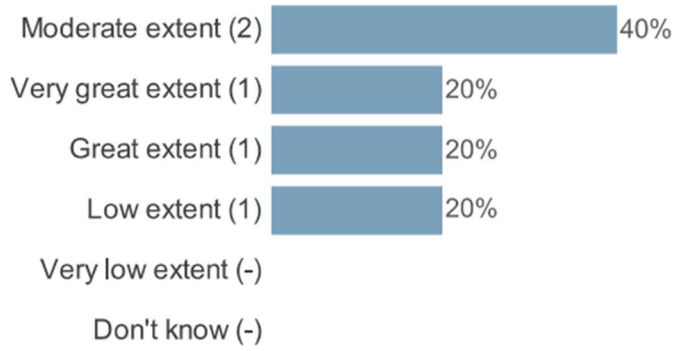
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



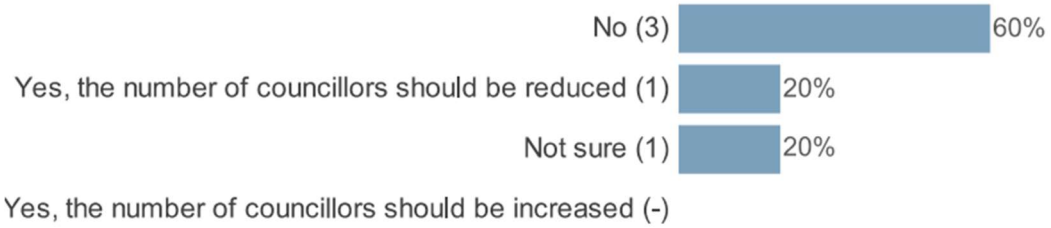
Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"The age profile of the PC does not fully reflect the Village community"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



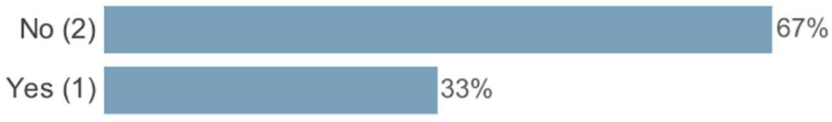
If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Too many. Less would save money and those remaining should do more than they do already."

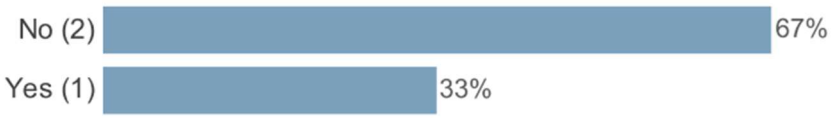
If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)



If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"We never see a Councillor and the PC never responds to correspondence"

"More Councillors might just improve communication"

Do you have any further comments?

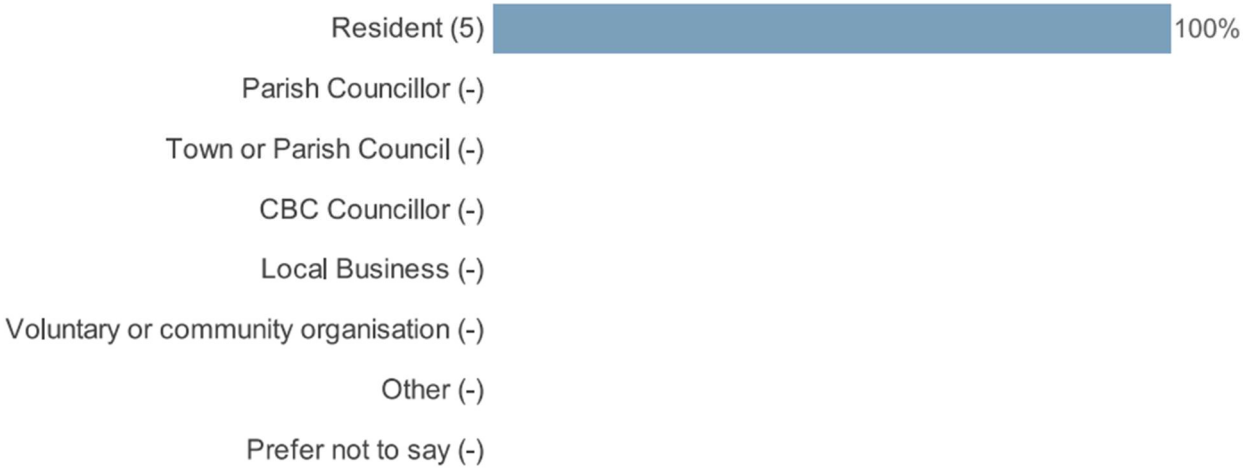
"Maulden PC is uncommunicative and inward looking"

47. Meppershall 5 responses

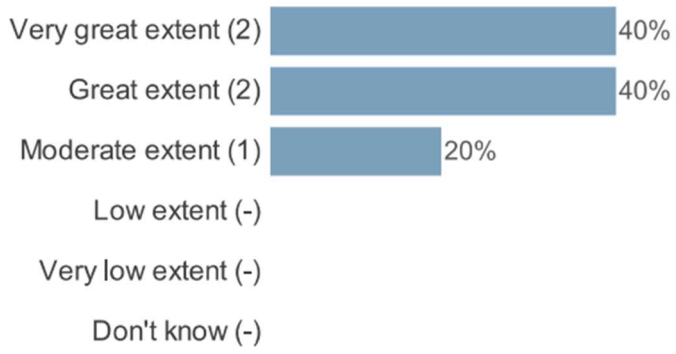
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



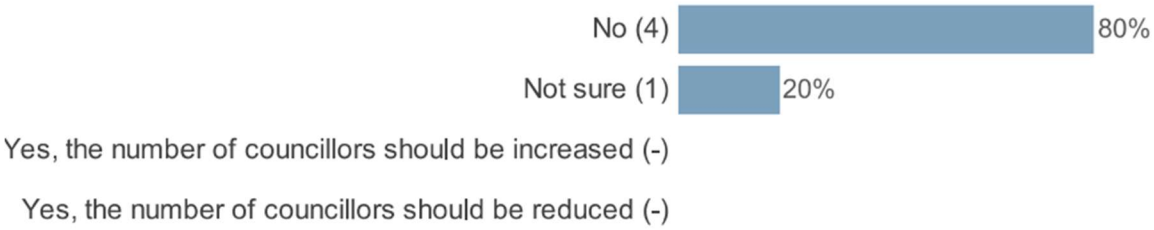
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



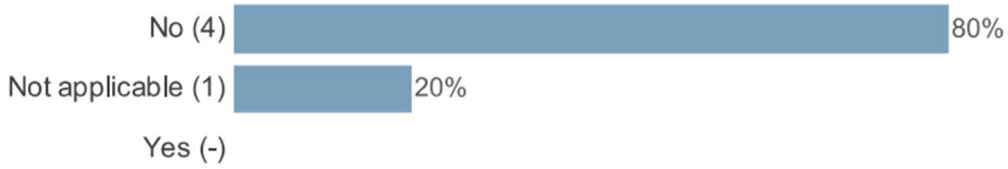
Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"There always seems to be a disconnect between the PC and CBC - usually because they have different agendas, that of the PC being more tied to parish needs and wishes. Parish Councils need greater powers, particularly concerning planning. It's no coincidence that the prime mover for this Review is to change boundaries to suit endless new estates of "executive homes".

I believe the parish councils should have more influence over building decisions in the local areas as they more closely represent the local resident views."

48. Millbrook No responses

The following information was provided alongside the Millbrook parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Millbrook is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but rather meets as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at no further dwellings.

The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Ampthill, Houghton Conquest, Lidlington, Marston Moreteyne and Steppingley. The parish, together with the parishes of Ampthill, Clophill and Maulden are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Ampthill.

49. Milton Bryan No responses

The following information was provided alongside the Milton Bryan parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Milton Bryan is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but rather meets as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at no further dwellings.

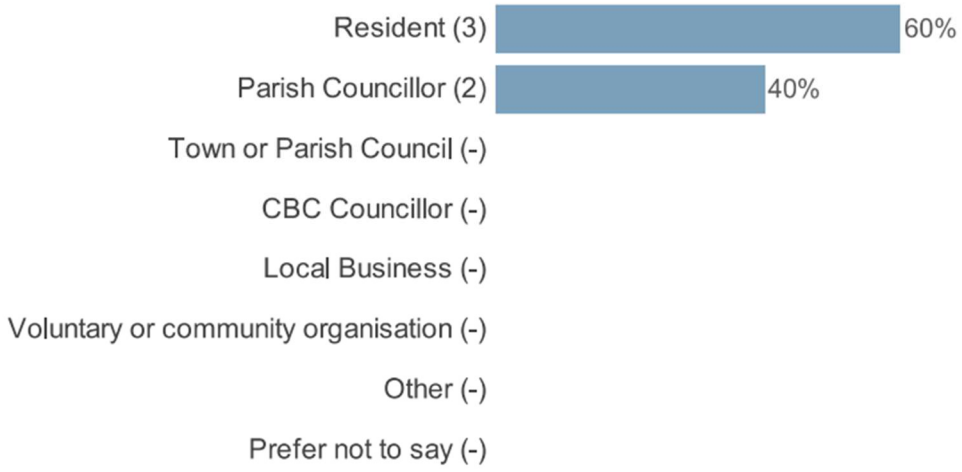
The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Battlesden, Eversholt, Potsgrove, Tingrith, Toddington and Woburn. The parish, together with the parishes of Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath, Battlesden, Eversholt, Husborne Crawley, Potsgrove and Woburn are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Aspley and Woburn.

50. Moggerhanger 5 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

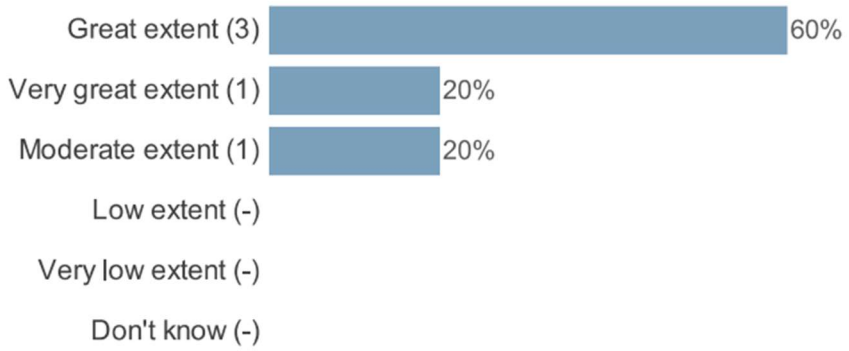
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

"Moggerhanger"
"Moggerhanger"

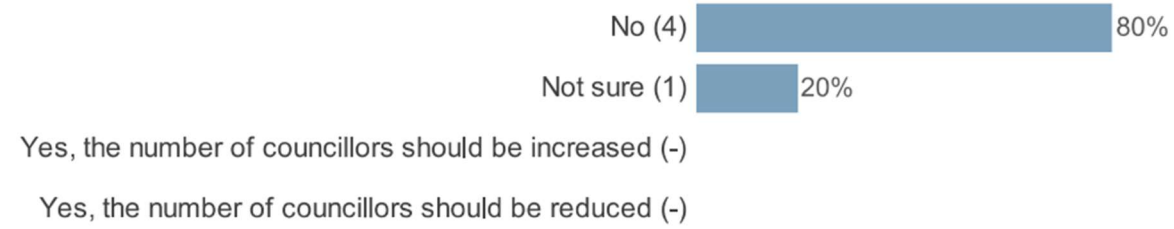
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Moggerhanger struggles to get councillors. But the village is expanding so no need to expect fewer councillor posts."

"The parish of Moggerhanger and local matters are important to parish residents, with good attendance at meetings"

"Yes it is hard to get parish councillors to serve in the Parish but the ones we have are dedicated and work for our vilage. We are also supported by some local volunteer help We are particularly blessed to have our ward councilor Mr Paul Daniels on our council. He is incredibly helpful"

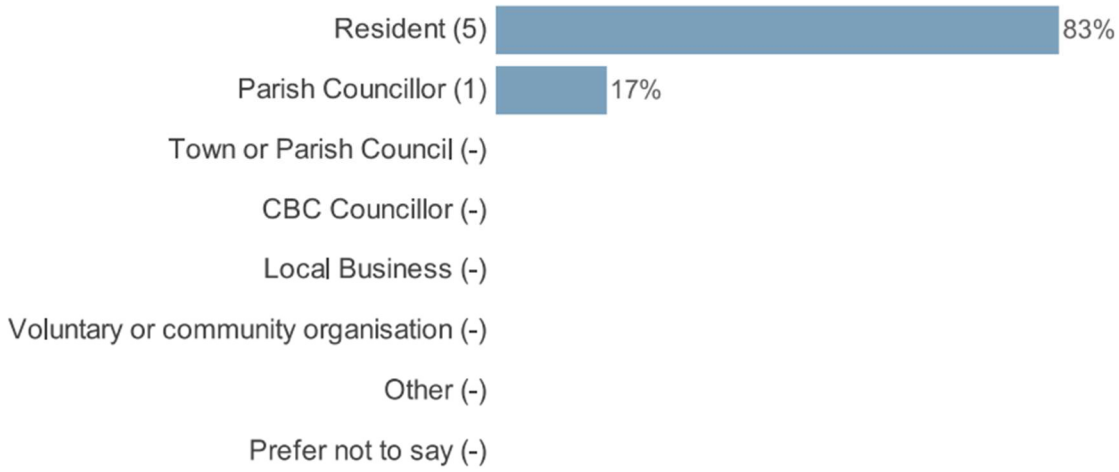
51. Northill 6 responses (plus a written letter response from Northill Parish Council)

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

We also received a letter responding to the consultation from Northill Parish Council, this can be found in full in the Appendix to this report.

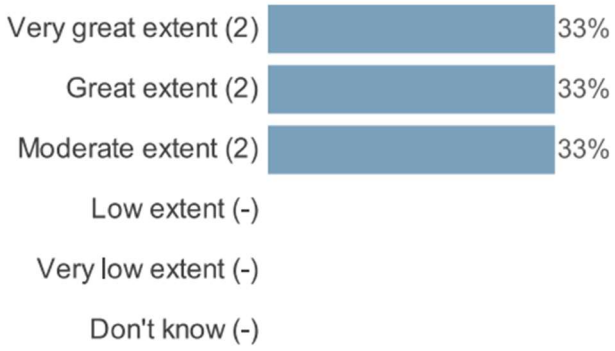
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

"Northill"

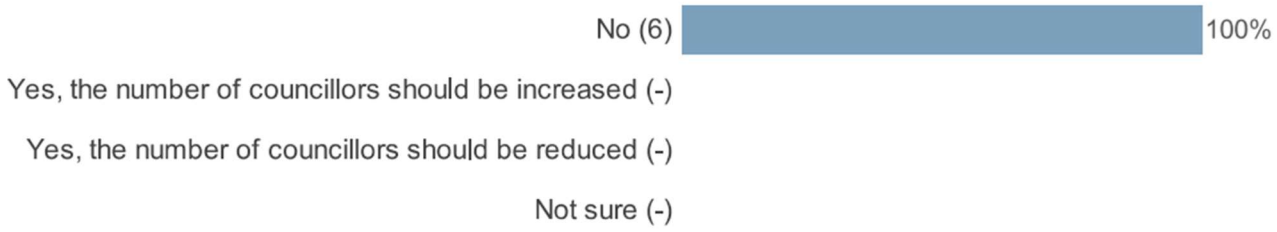
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Our Parish Council are very good and communicate well with residents."

"If it is not broken don't fix it."

"It is fine as is!"

52. Old Warden No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

The councillors of Old Warden parish do not wish for there to be any changes to the parish boundary, parish name or number of councillors.

53. Potsgrove No responses

The following information was provided alongside the Potsgrove parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Potsgrove is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but rather meets as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at no further dwellings.

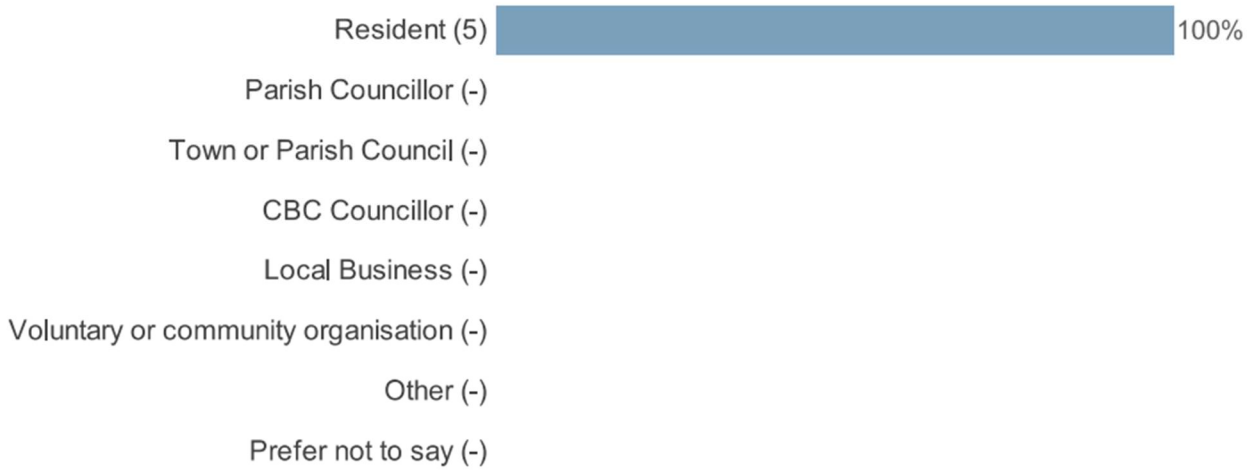
The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Battlesden, Heath and Reach, Milton Bryan and Woburn. The parish, together with the parishes of Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath, Battlesden, Eversholt, Husborne Crawley, Milton Bryan and Woburn are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Aspley and Woburn.

54. Potton 5 responses

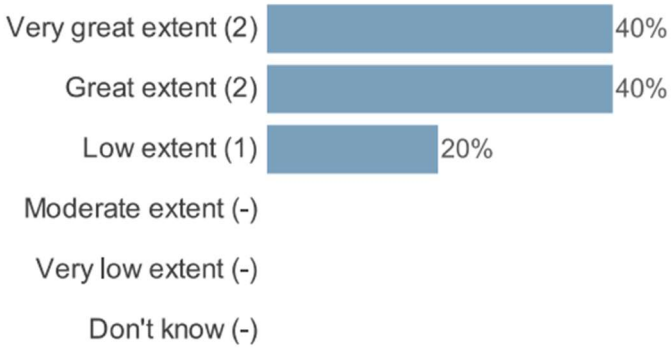
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



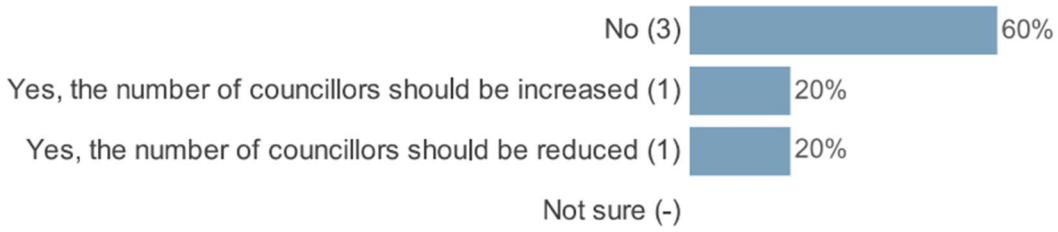
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?

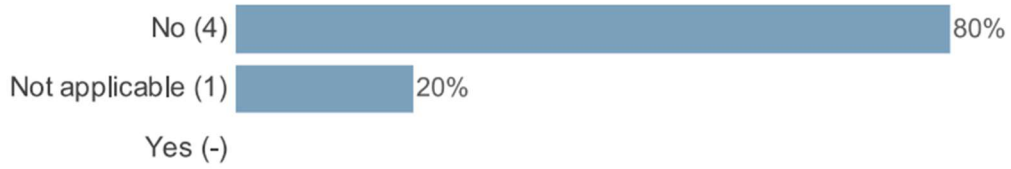


If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Maybe 12. A better size for full participation in meetings."

"Plus one or two, to reflect the growth of the town"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Sorry I missed the announcement of the consultation on 7th July. I'm currently away, so responses are not fully researched. Potton is currently becoming overwhelmed with increased incoming populations, so help to bring newcomers into our community is needed. Also the rate of expansion of our housing needs to be curtailed until we have commensurate improved infrastructure. Of note, as we are a rural Georgian market town, there is little room to improve road infrastructure, which should be considered a limiting factor to expansion on safety grounds alone."

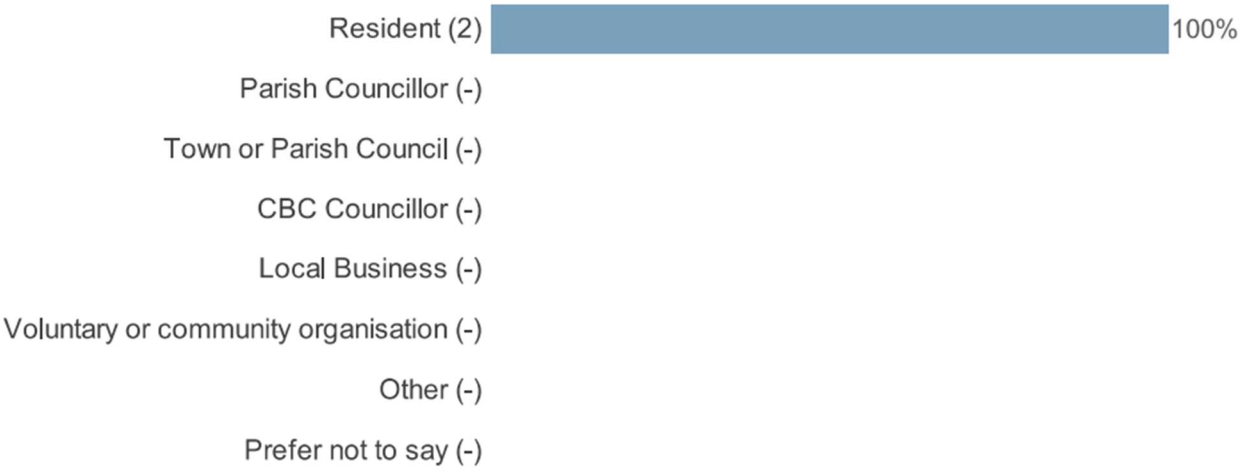
"I think Potton council do good work serving their town, providing services, facilities, and events"

55. Pulloxhill 2 responses

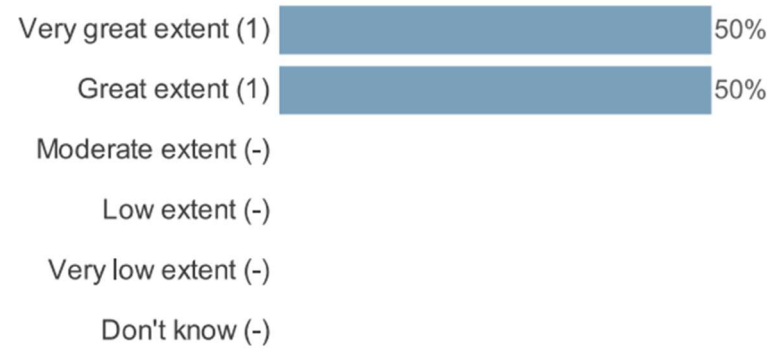
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



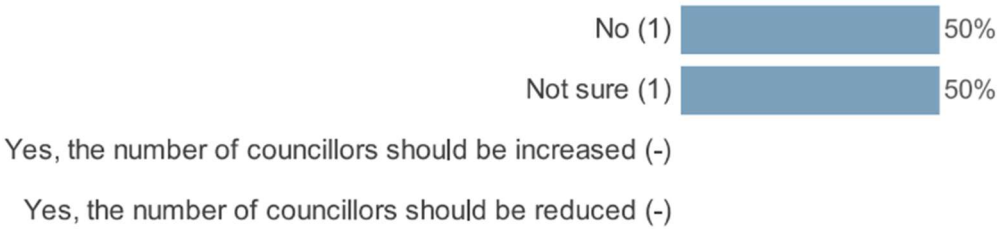
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"I live in Sand -about 12 houses in between Silsoe and Pulloxhill. So we are in between, dont always feel a part of either. Our lampposts are horrible compared to Silsoe - small thing, but does anyone look out for us? No one to my knowledge has ever made themselves known to our area to seek our views. We like it here, not complaining , the peace and quiet of the location is brilliant."

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

No answer

Do you have any further comments?

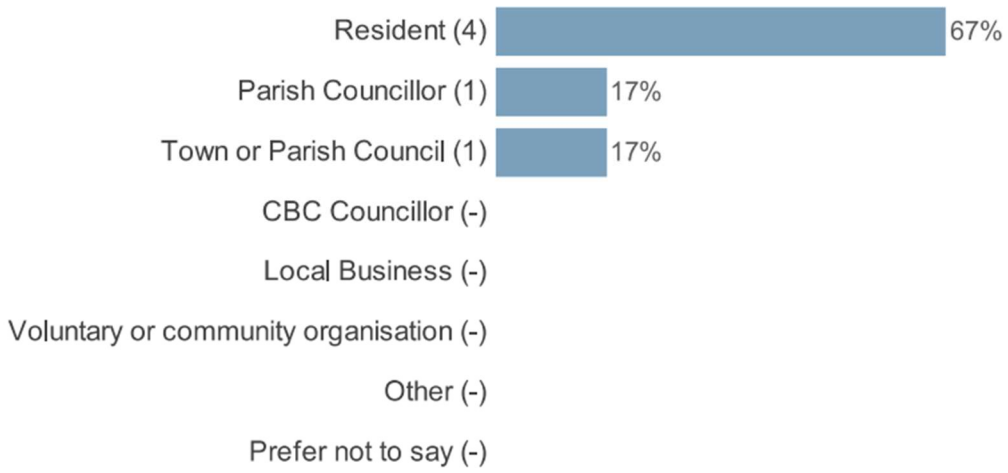
"We were only emailed about the review 5 days before it closed. There has been very poor promotion of the consultation."

56. Ridgmont 7 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

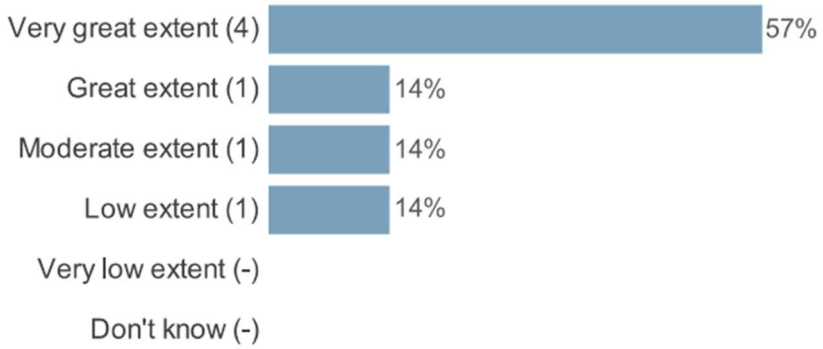
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?
"Ridgmont"

If Town or Parish Council, please specify:
"Ridgmont"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



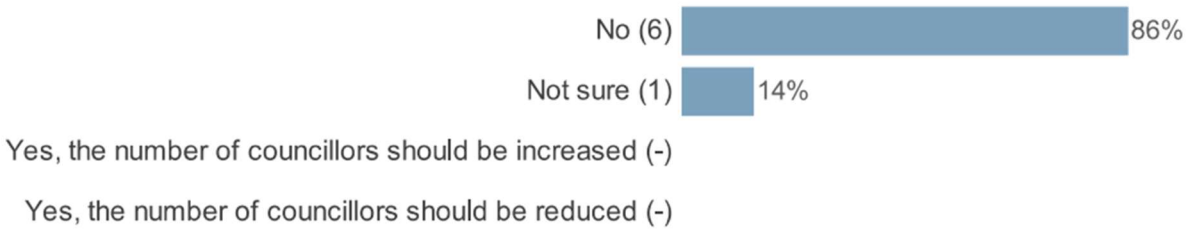
Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Should be included as marston moretaine, residents of marston tended to use the school"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Parish councils who are unpaid volunteers do an excellent job representing their communities.Without them residents would not have a voice on local issues."

"Parish boundaries should not be moved to suit the needs of interested land owners/ developers (who may also serve on local councils) The rural aspect of parishes and surrounding should be preserved. We are seeing too many important natural areas being destroyed e.g. warehousing at Junction 13 on the green sand ridge, with the loss of wild life. We need to start thinking about the long term."

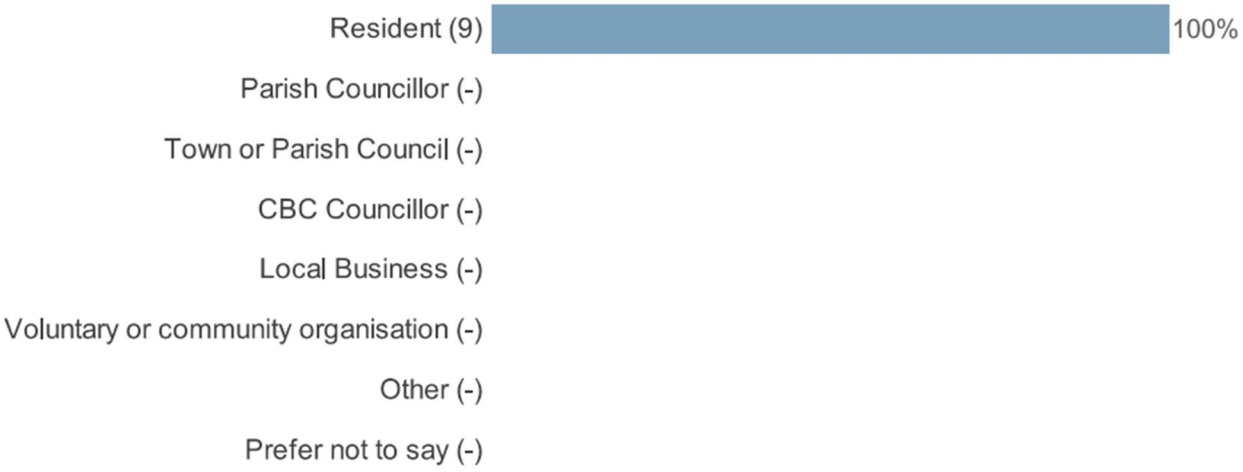
"Parish Councils are an important interface between the Local Authority and the local community. Without PCs the voice of the local community would be lost."

57. Sandy 9 responses

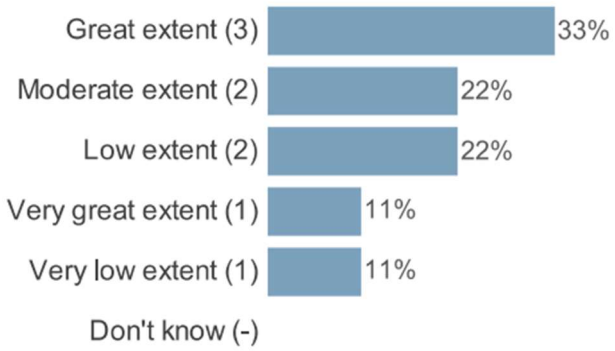
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

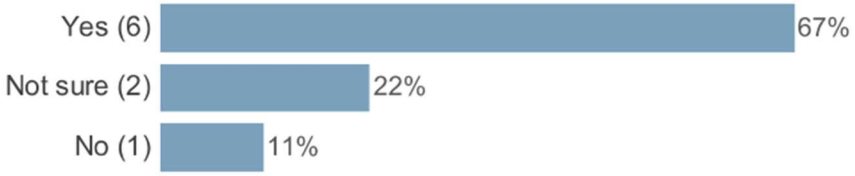
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Don't know what the current boundary is so difficult to comment."

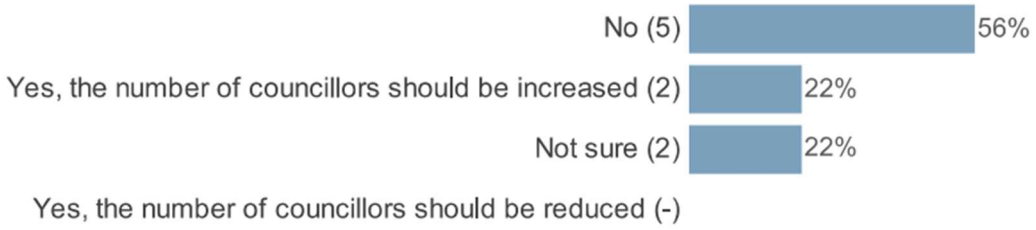
"Sandy has grown significantly over the years. This has resulted in smaller areas, such as Beeston, not being well represented (the number of councillors who are from Beeston is high but they do not engage with the community (another more general issue)."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Sandy and Beeston Town Council"

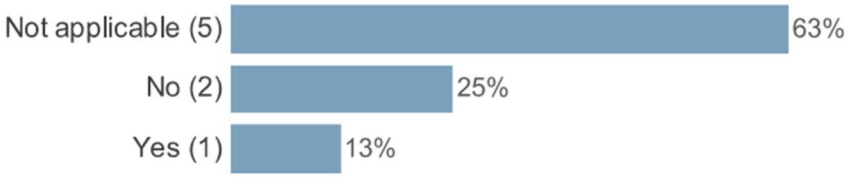
Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Twice the existing number, to enable better representation of the population.ward boundary should be proportionate to number of people living there."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Already divided into wards and seems to work"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"The area covered by each ward should be proportionate to the size of the population within the ward."

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Nothing wrong with Sandy Town Council. Far more effective than Central Bedfordshire Council. Its officers and administrators are effective, honest and great communicators, which is more than can be said for staff at Central Bedfordshire Council. I'd be more than happy to give more powers to Sandy Town Council if some of the underperforming administrators in CBC were made redundant and the money saved was handed to Sandy Town Council."

"Sandy Town Council has too few powers for a town of our size, which once had it own Urban District Council. Far too many decisions are made at the level of CBC rather than at the Sandy level, and therefore also have to reflect the views of Councillors from places like Ampthill and Flitwick for whom Sandy is a far off place of little interest. The prevailing view locally is that CBC takes little or no account of the views of Sandy Town Council. Where Sandy Town Council does have powers eg for allotments, it does not have the finances to provide them. The way to renew public interest in genuinely local government is to give real powers and funding to Councillors in places like Sandy."

"The funding htrough the precept should be supplemented for any devolved services"

"Too many barbers, nail bars, Turkish barbers, more barbers, hairdressers, more hairdressers, too many fast food shops, eating houses too many, no banks and to finish it off a Tattoo Parlour. This hardly represents a thriving country multi community - more like downtown.....!!"

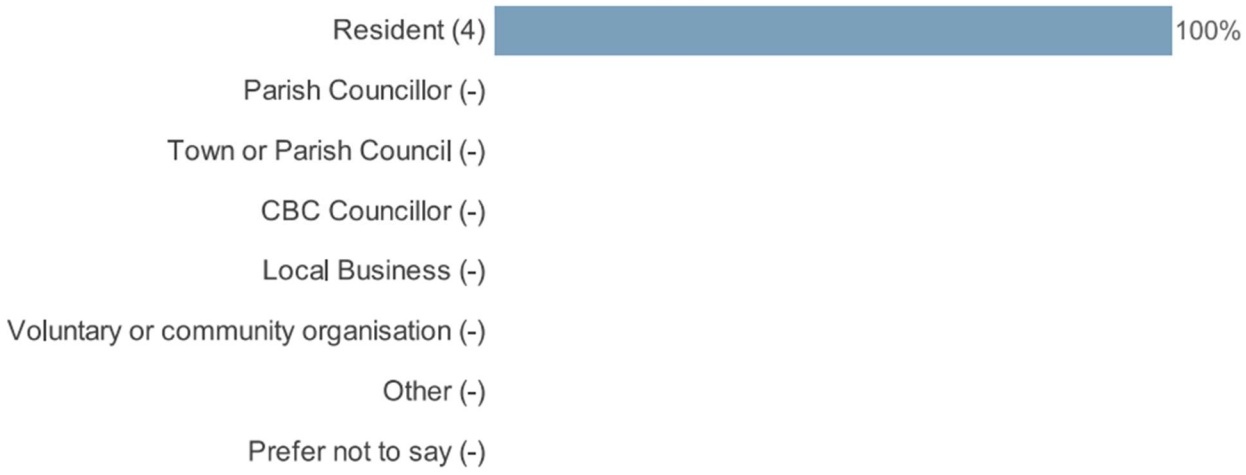
"Boundaries are important. However, the Councillors should be obliged to engage with the people they represent to ensure they are in tune with local people. I appreciate these people are volunteers but just being on the parish council to present your own views needs to be addressed. One other item that needs to be fixed is for the Council to ask residents if they wish to opt out of receiving requests for resident feedback, rathger than opt in - this would help address residents complaining they were not consulted."

58. Shefford 5 responses

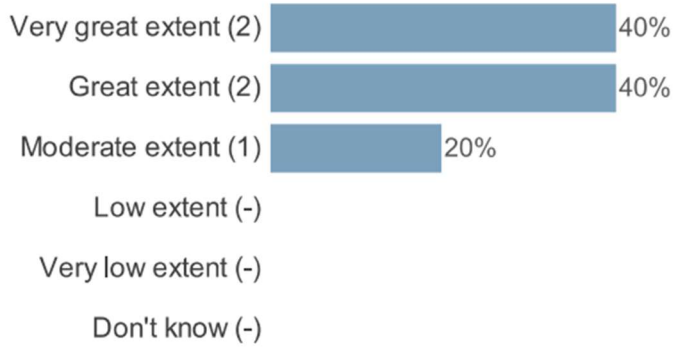
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



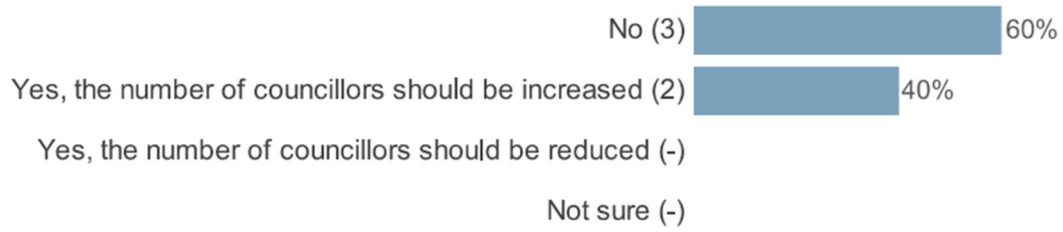
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

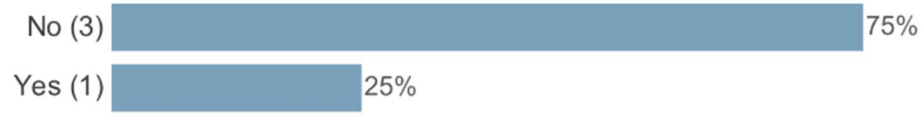
"Three"

"17 - because of the growth in the town"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)



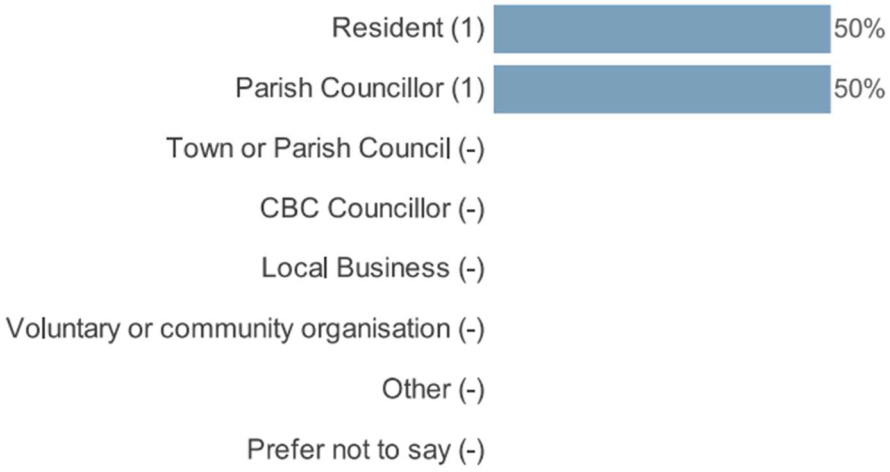
If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

59. Shillington 3 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

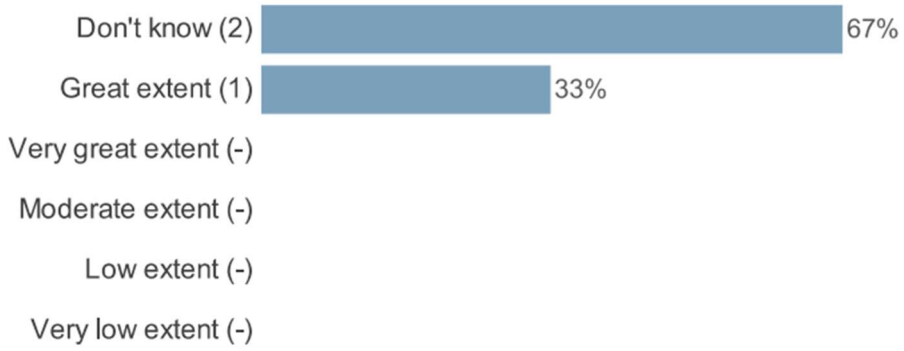
Are you responding as: (please select one)



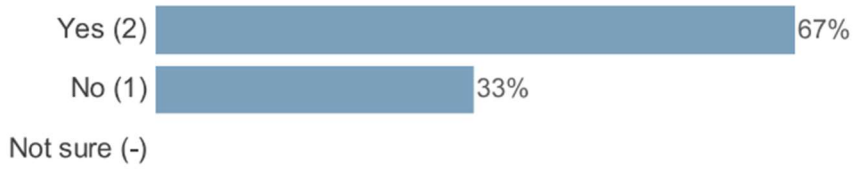
If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

"Shillington"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

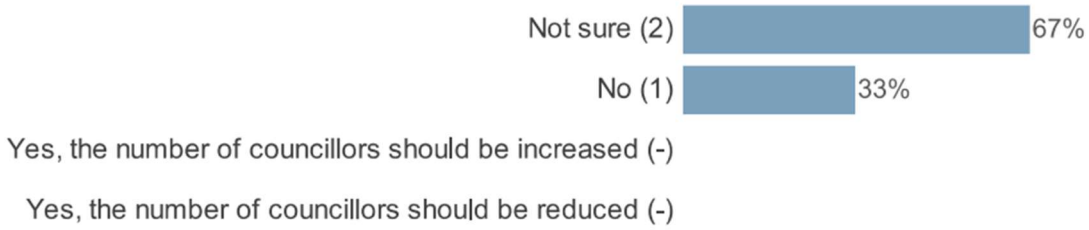


If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Please see comment on Gravenhurst boundary, to include the technically Shillington homes, with the Gravenhurst postcode MK, not Shillington SG, along Old Mill Lane backing onto the parishes' river boundary, to be considered and included within Gravenhurst parish, the natural and habitual focus of the residents. Thank you! Again, asking for friend who lives there."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

60. Silsoe 5 responses

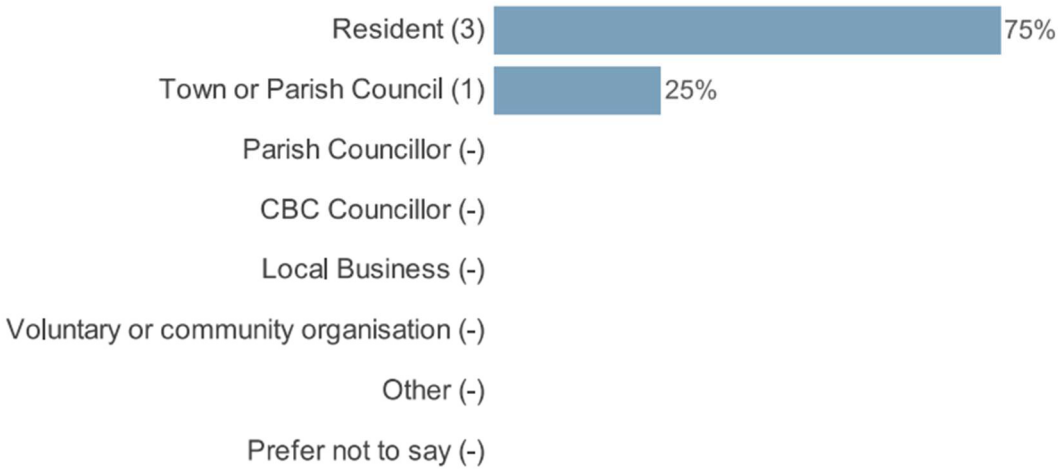
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Review of property anomalies

The properties Orchard End and Willowstream are in the parish of Silsoe, but the remainder of the area is in the parish of Clophill. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly.

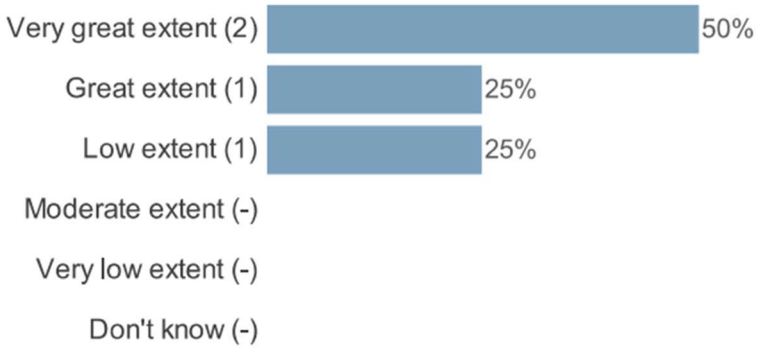
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

"Silsoe PC"

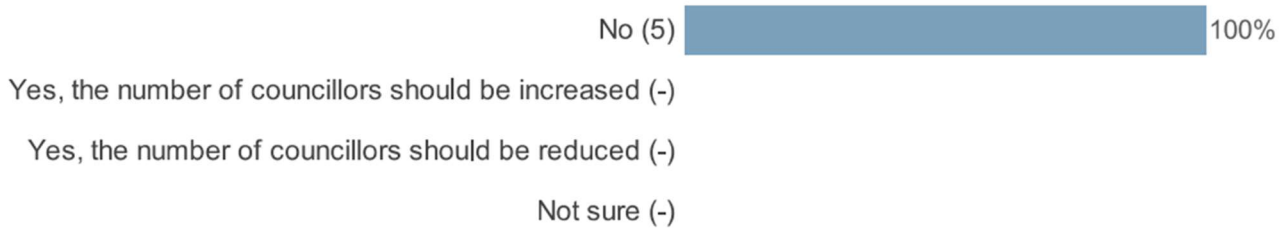
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

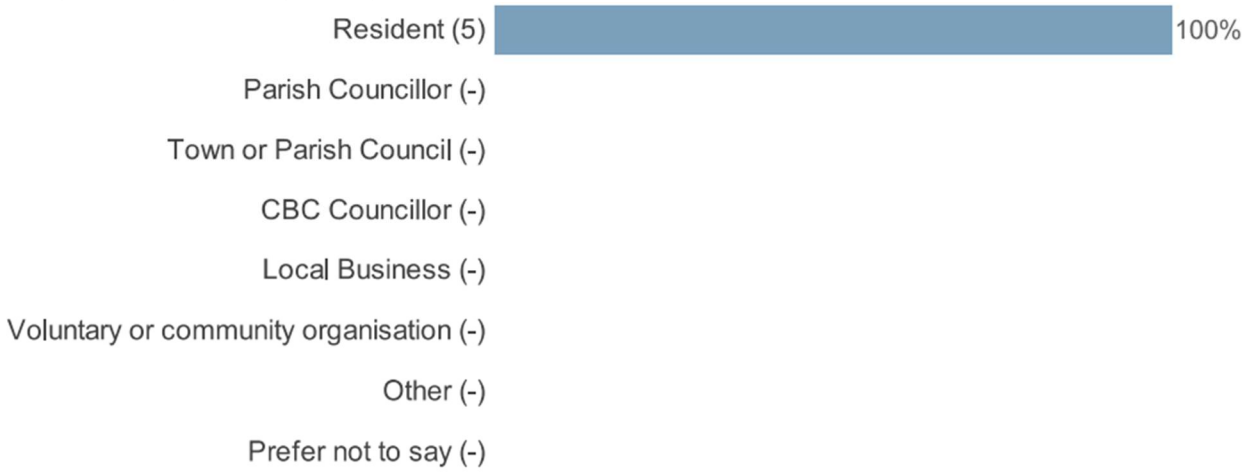
"I feel Silsoe parish council has embraced the new developments of recent years. They do not need to be joined with another parish."

61. Slip End 6 responses

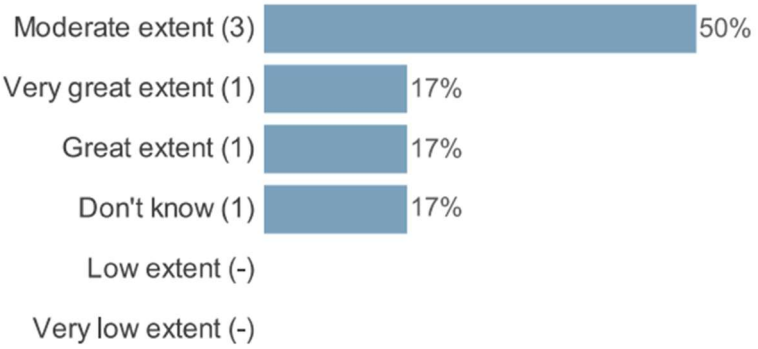
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



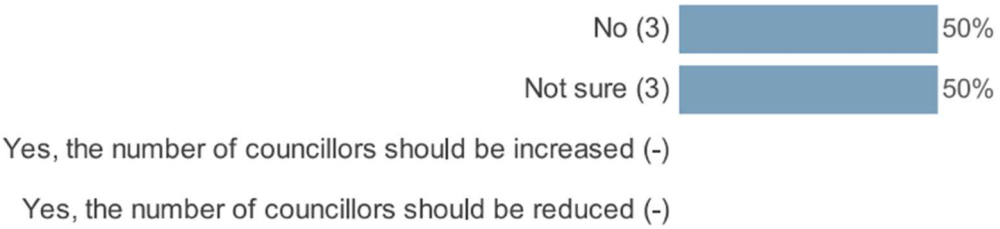
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"The parish council seems to achieve nothing. We have had, for over 20 years, flooding of Grove Road. Nothing seems to be done about it even though it has been discussed for all those years. The parish council AND Central Beds council are ineffective in taking any action about it.

"More powers should handed down to the parish from central beds"

"The current system seems to work well, but there is one odd anomaly. Some hedges are the responsibility of the local parish council and they are well mantained, but most are the responsibility of the council council and they are trimmed only in extremis. Currently, one cannot walk down some pavements because of the hedge growth."

62. Southill (Broom Ward) No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

As discussed previously, Southill Parish Council would like to remove the ward system from the council and still have 12 councillors representing the parish.

63. Southill (Southill Ward) 1 response

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

As discussed previously, Southill Parish Council would like to remove the ward system from the council and still have 12 councillors representing the parish.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

Resident (-)

Parish Councillor (-)

Town or Parish Council (-)

CBC Councillor (-)

Local Business (-)

Voluntary or community organisation (-)

Other (-)

Prefer not to say (-)

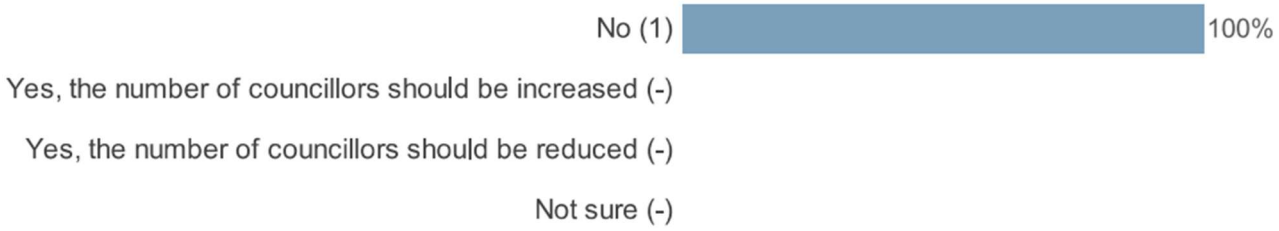
Was not answered

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)
No answer

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Southill Parish Council requests the ward system to be removed for this council

"removal of ward system and retain 12 Councillors for this Parish"

"no ward system for this parish and retain 12 Councillors, as it currently works with all Councillors dealing with the whole parish"

64. Southill (Stanford Ward) No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

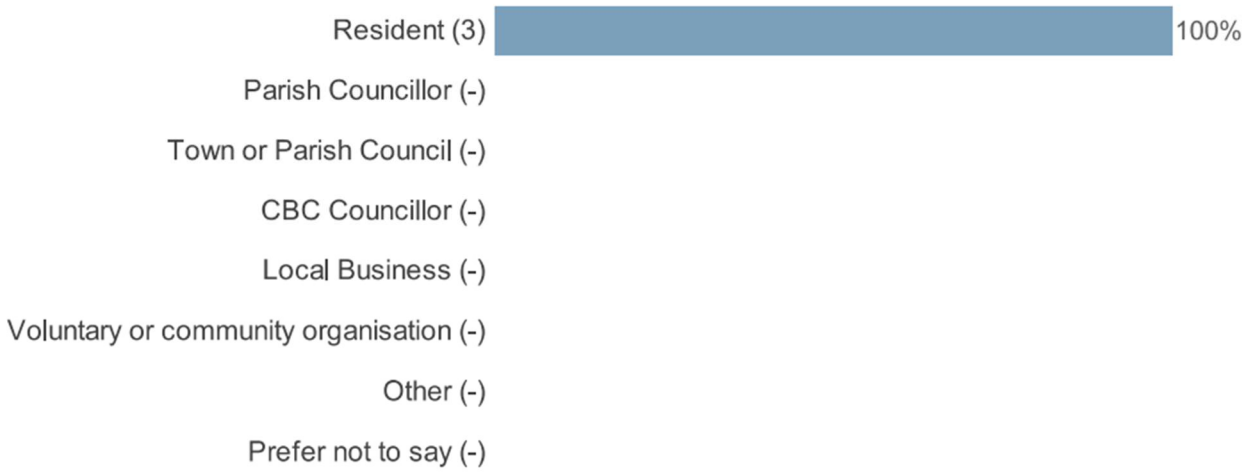
As discussed previously, Southill Parish Council would like to remove the ward system from the council and still have 12 councillors representing the parish.

65. Stanbridge 3 responses

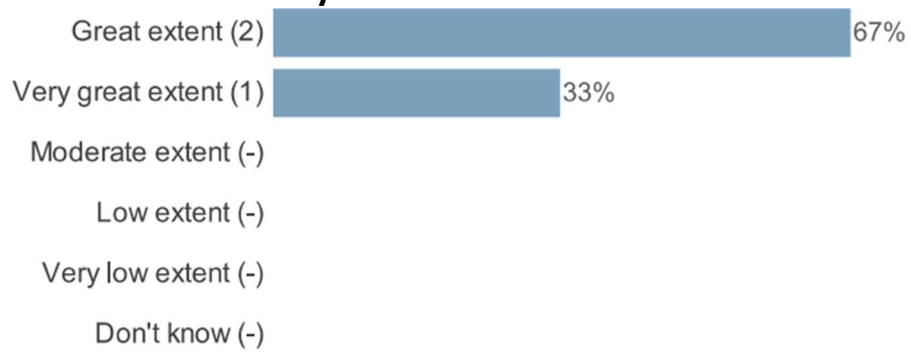
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

The parish council does not wish to merge with any other parishes, change its name or make a change to the number of councillors.

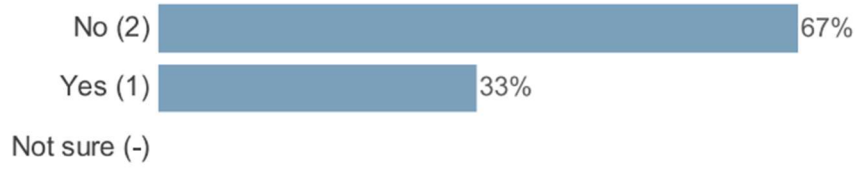
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



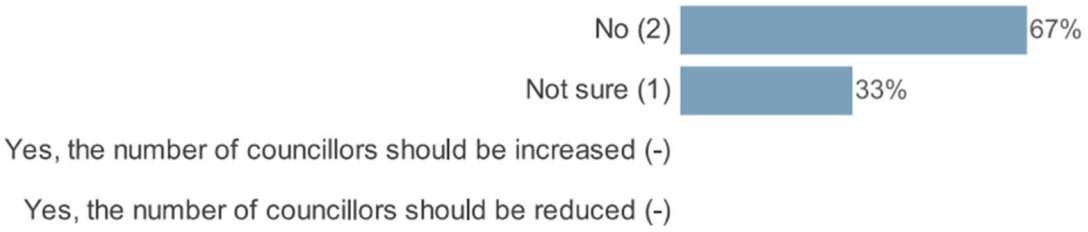
If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Should merge with Tilsworth who already appear to work together on many things such as Speedwatch and Community Hall support."

"It would make sense to merge with Tilsworth. Stanbridge and Tilsworth are very similar and share a village hall. Around 50% of Stanbridge PCs precept is spent on the Clerk (i.e. running itself) which is ludicrous."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

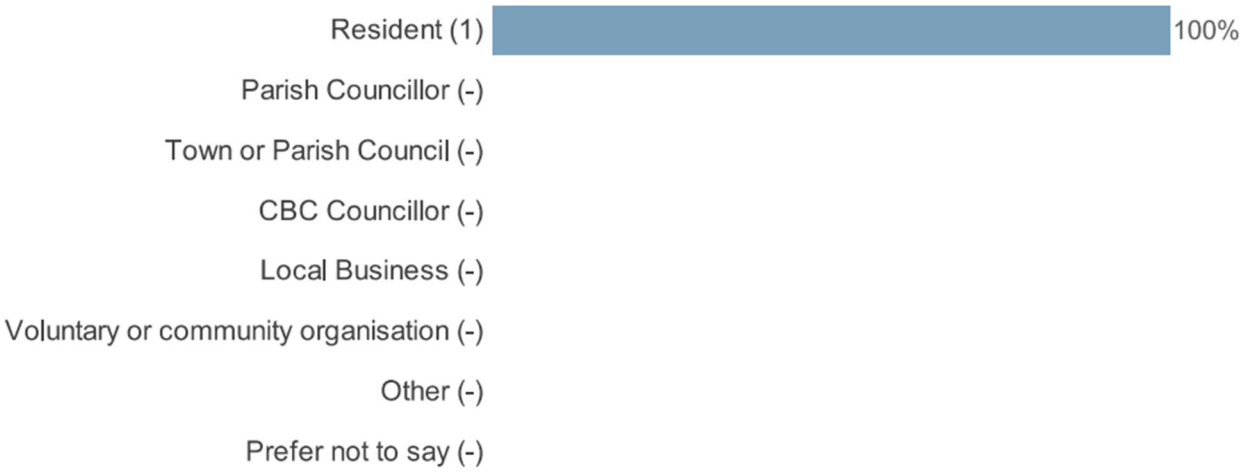
"Administration costs should be considered. In the last financial year, Stanbridge PC had an income of £26,868. Of that money, £11,875 went to the Clerk. That means for an organisation that's mostly run by volunteers we have 44% of the income going to the Clerk. This is absurd. Parish Councils should be axed as they serve no real purpose but assuming that can't be done they should be made larger so as to dilute the effect of the Clerks wages. Source: https://stanbridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Annual-Governance-and-Accountability-Return-2024-25-Stanbridge-Parish-Council.pdf"

66. Steppingley 2 responses

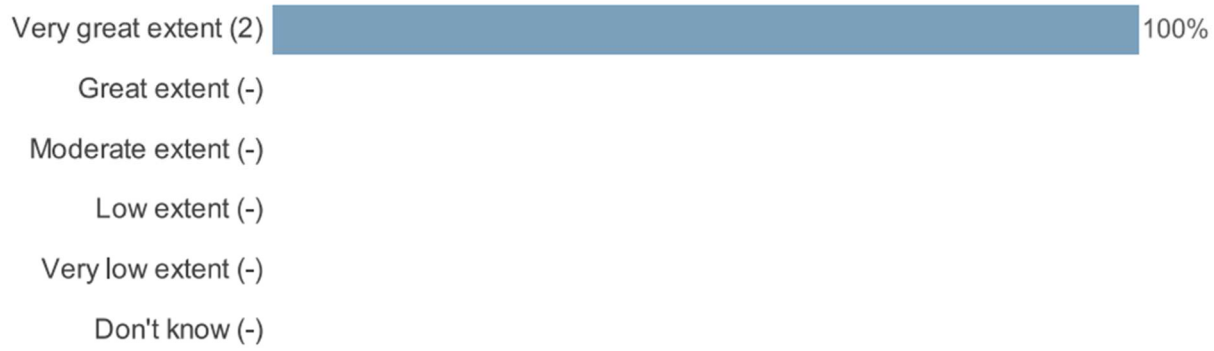
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



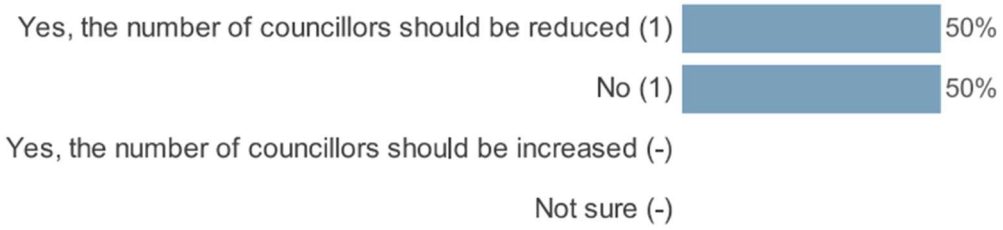
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"This parish council offers poor value for money. The electorate at 152 electors is almost below the threshold for there even being a council. My personal view is that Steppingley should be grouped with Flitwick."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

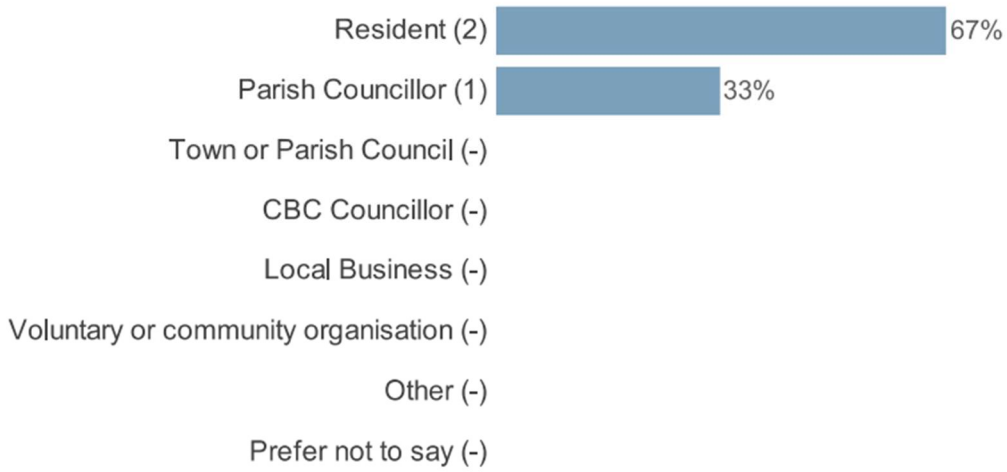
"Propose to abolish the council and group with Flitwick"

67. Stondon 3 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

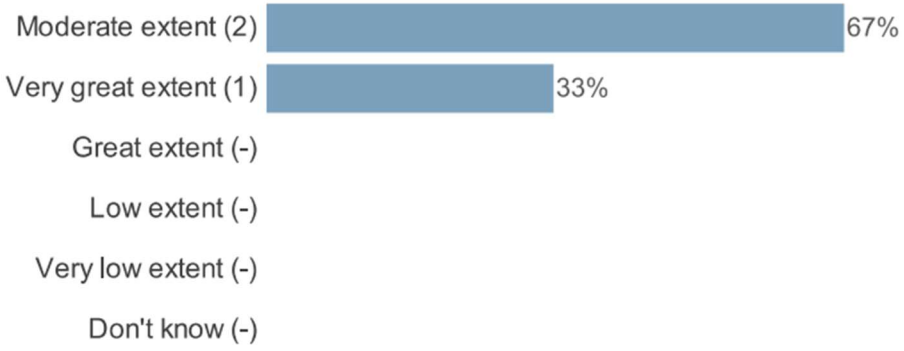
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

"Stondon"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

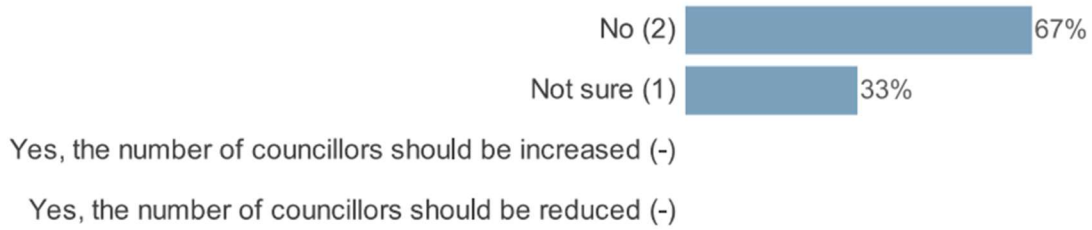
"Henlow Camp is approx two miles from Henlow yet tor the majority of the populated area it is on the opposite side of the road to Lower Stondon. Stondon should incorporate Henlow Camp."

"It makes no sense that Henlow Camp residents and businesses to the east of the Hitchin road are in Henlow parish. This is detrimental to our village as it cuts it in half. They should be moved into Stondon parish so that we can take decisions on the future of our village together."

"Creation of a new parish taking in Henlow camp and the development to the South of the village in Ickleford North Herts that borders Stondon"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"Upper Stondon, Lower Stondon and if adopted Henlow Camp."

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"From my perspective Lower Stondon is seen as the runt of the CBC Parishes with windfall housing applications freely granted. It is no longer a village but a sprawling housing development without any direction or plan and totally lacking in the infra structure to support it."

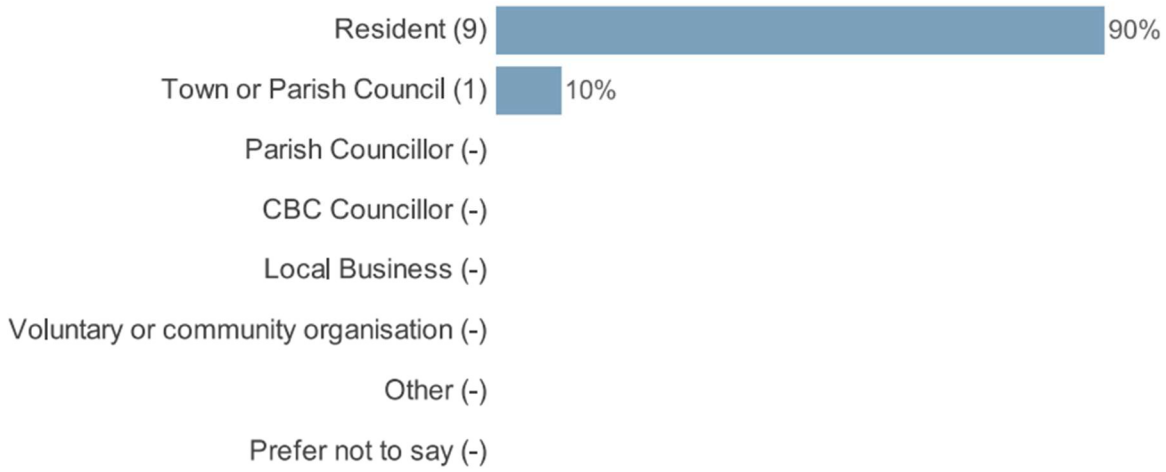
"It makes no sense that Henlow Camp residents and businesses to the east of the Hitchin road are in Henlow parish. This is detrimental to Lower Stondon village as it cuts it in half. They should be moved into Stondon parish so that we can take decisions on the future of our village together."

68. Stotfold 12 responses (plus a written letter response from Stotfold Town Council uploaded into questionnaire)

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

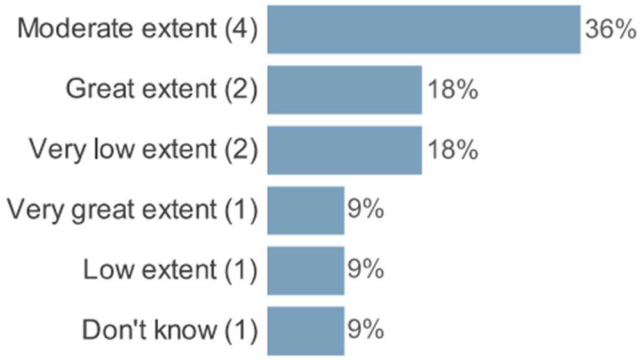
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

"Stotfold Town Council"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Should be merged with Hertfordshire, as the location is a common source of confusion and frustration."

"As the Town Council does not reflect the interests of the town, maybe a review of the area covered should be enacted."

"Stotfold Town Council has liaised with neighbouring parish and town councils to consider how best the boundaries can reflect the needs of the residents of Stotfold. This includes amalgamating the parish meeting of Astwick as a ward of Stotfold Town Council with its own representative and redrafting the boundary between Arlesey and Stotfold to include Etonbury School and Woods into Stotfold, incorporating the man made boundary of the A507."

If you would like to upload any files to support any changes, you can do so here:

File was uploaded and included in Appendix

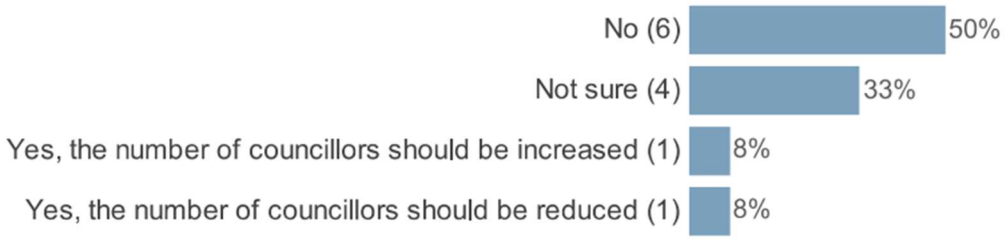
Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"Stotfold and District. Reason: to expand the area of remit"

"Stotfold and District to reflect the difference between the original town and the new housing estates"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"As a resident I'm not in a position to answer."

"Our local councillors are very insular and don't reflect the changing nature of the town. The new estates would benefit from being encouraged to sit on their council by additional seats being made available for them."

"The Mayor and the current council are useless so why have so many drawing so much money from the community"

"Far fewer, more useful council members"

"1, to represent the town and ward, no need for any more waste of money councillors on the town council"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If yes, please provide details of the proposal including; the proposed ward boundary, how this change would make the election of councillors more practical, ward names and how many councillors should represent each ward:

"As a resident I think this question is beyond my ability but it would help to ensure the council reflected the town if councillors came from specific wards. At the moment the council's make up is very traditional and blinkered. It needs younger people looking to the future, not like it is now with some people sitting on their council because their family always had a seat. As a result they just look after themselves and their friends and don't care about the rest of us."

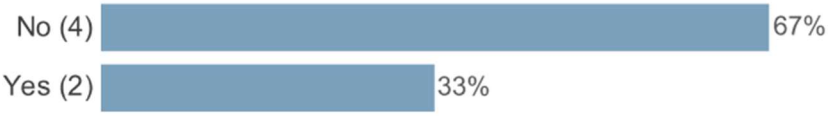
"With all the new housing estates, the existing town feels under represented. Much of the town council decisions feel as though focus on new estates and little improvement is made to existing areas"

"If the parish meeting of Astwick is amalgamated into Stotfold then it should be a separate ward of Astwick with one ward councillor."

"All I can say is that this parish needs wards to ensure all areas are represented."

"3 wards, the green end, Arlesey Road end and hitchin road end

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"There are councillors who do not integrate into town life but prefer to judge and use their position to be condescending and lecture the people living in Stotfold. Let the town people have a proper vote on their councillors rather than be co-opted in"

"The ward boundary for Astwick should be the same as the current parish meeting."

Do you have any further comments?

"Our council needs modernising. At the moment several of the councillors are only on the council because a member of their family has always had a seat. They get on unopposed because none of the make any effort to engage with the community, thereby ensuring that no one is interested in replacing them. They then only look after their own interests, which include substantial property ownership. They survive on apathy and it needs to stop."

"Stotfold is a large village with limited facilities and due to its location has been ignored by CBC and it's predecessor for years. A change in how we are treated is long overdue."

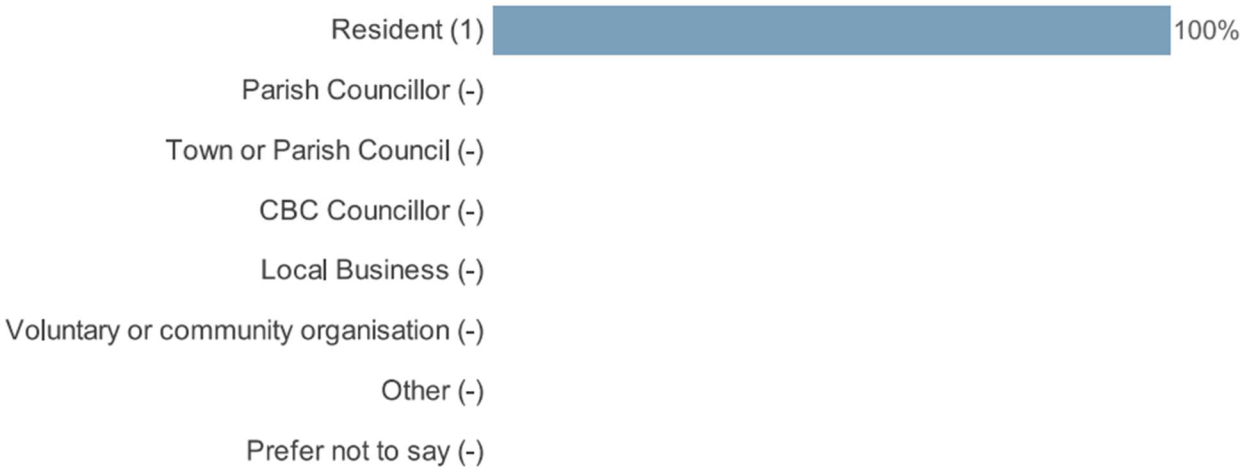
"The town council has begun but needs to create more things for people in Stotfold to be able to do in Stotfold rather than getting in the car"

69. Streatley 1 response

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

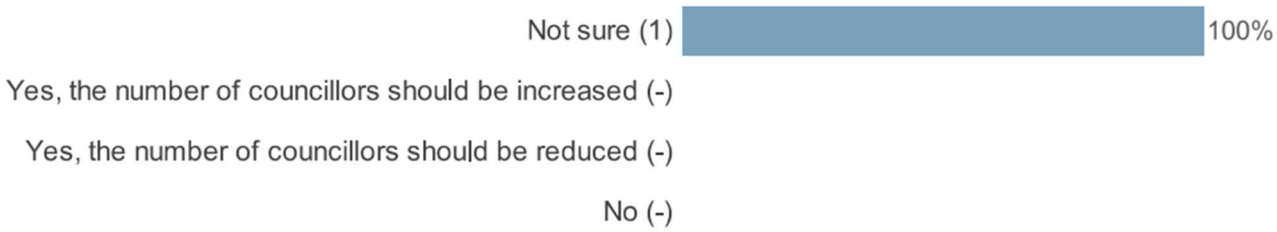


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

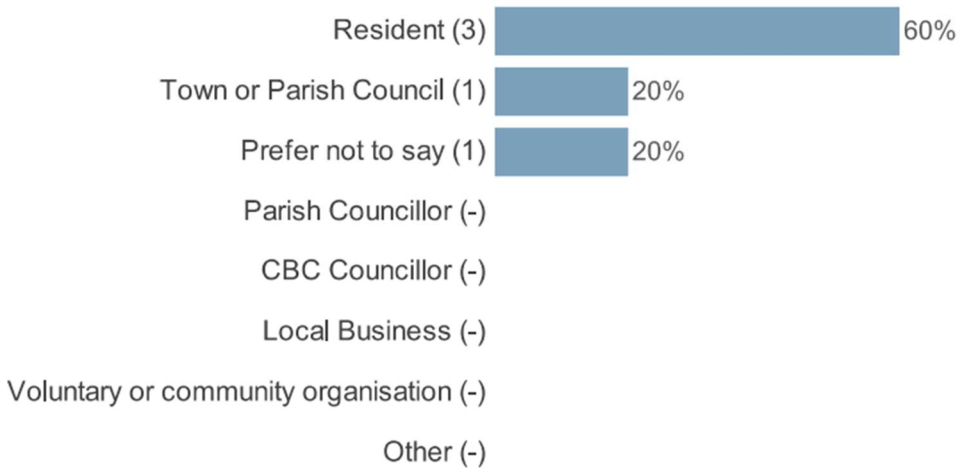
If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

70. Studham 6 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

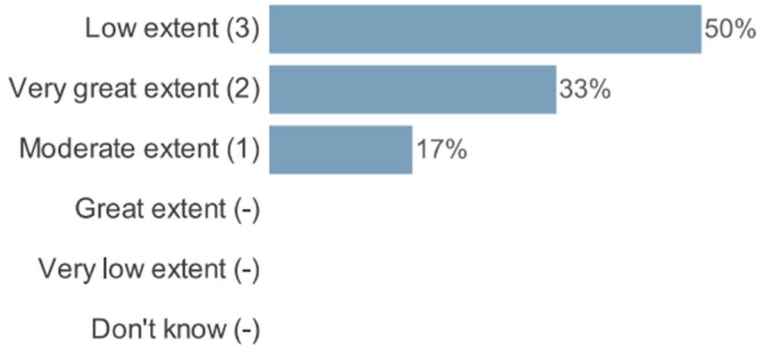
Are you responding as: (please select one)



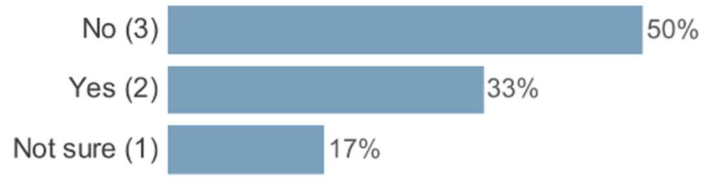
If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

"Studham Parish Council"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Studham PC should include Oldhill Wood. The residents have a Studham postal address but are in Whipsnade parish."

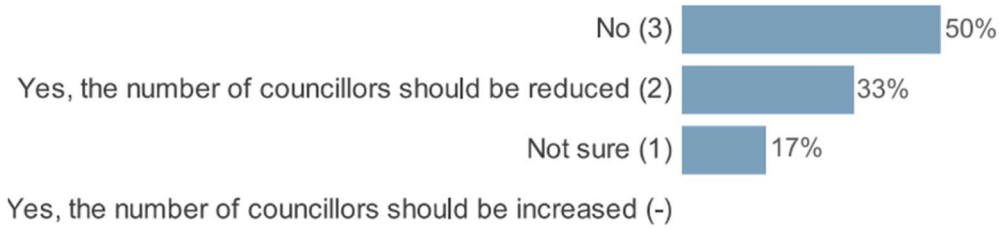
"Merged parishes would bring new thinking to the parish. At the moment the parish councillers are overly protective of their small areas within the parish such as Hollywell, they do not represent the parish as a whole."

"Potential to merge with neighbouring Parishes."

"The parishes within the boundries differ in their size, the type being some are built up and some are not. Merge like for like parishes."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



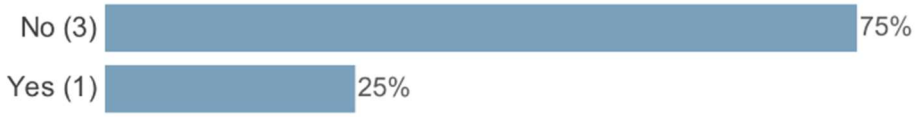
If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Reduce the number and ensure they reduced number respresent the whole parish not just small pockets of it where they live."

"With merged parishes some of the roles can be conducted across parishes as they are not parish specific."

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Parishes in our ward are too diverse and need to be grouped in like for like parishes."

"Merge the wards to ensure a better representation of the parishes and bring in new thinking."

"1"

Do you have any further comments?

"Studham Parish Council has found there is no beneficial reason to change, alter or amend existing governance arrangements for Studham at this time, this includes no boundary change across neighbouring parishes and no change in the number of member seats for Studham Parish Council."

"I don't know in depth other parishes so cannot answer which should be grouped together."

71. Sundon No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

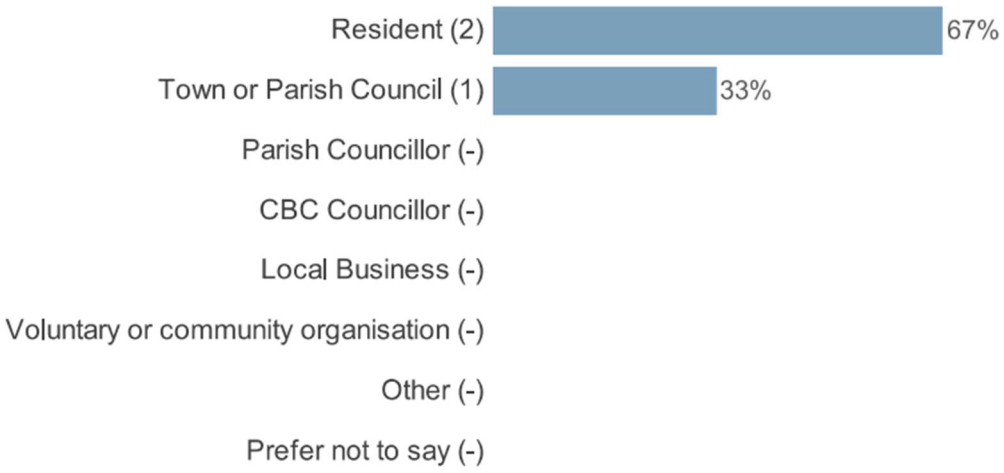
At a meeting of Sundon Parish Council on 2 April 2025 it was agreed that they would like no changes made to their parish at this moment in time.

72. Sutton 3 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

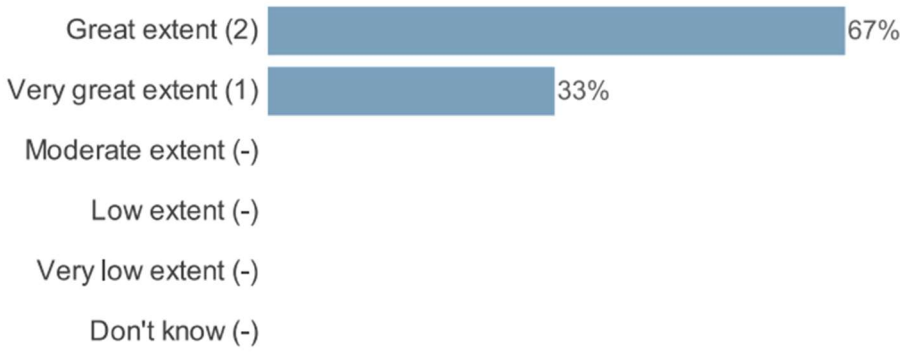
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

"Sutton Parish Council"

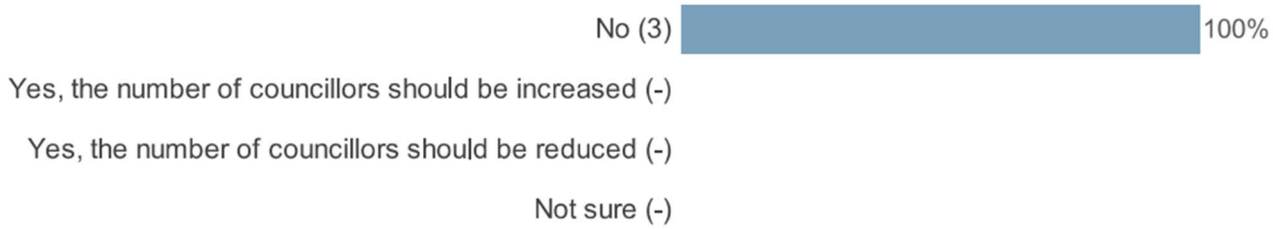
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

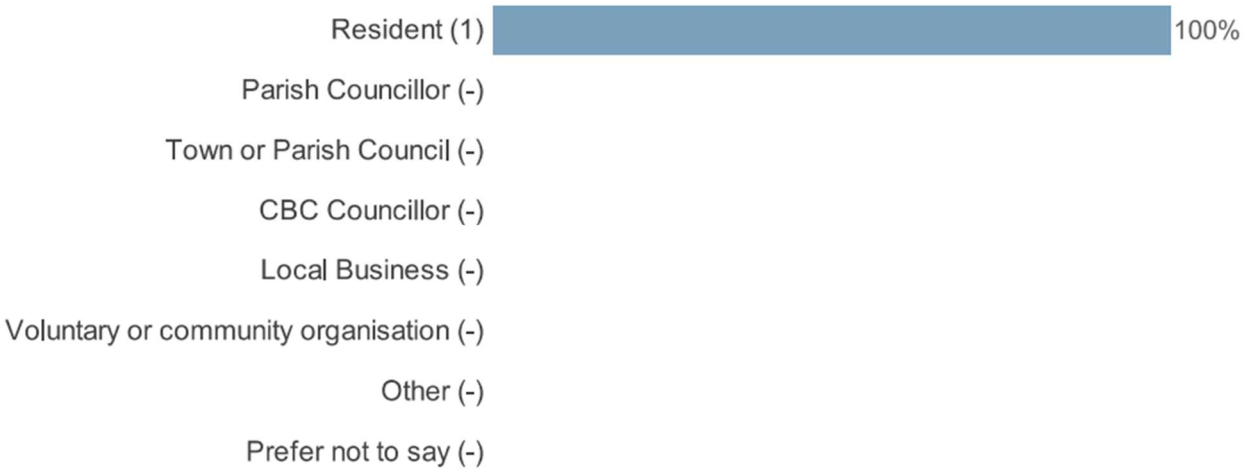
"Sutton Parish Council believes that the current boundaries of the parish, the make-up of the Council and the number of councillors are correct for the parish at this particular time and would not want to see any changes. If however the recent 'Call for Sites' exercise was to include development that effects the parish of Sutton then the Council would want to be consulted further at that time."

73. Tempsford 1 response

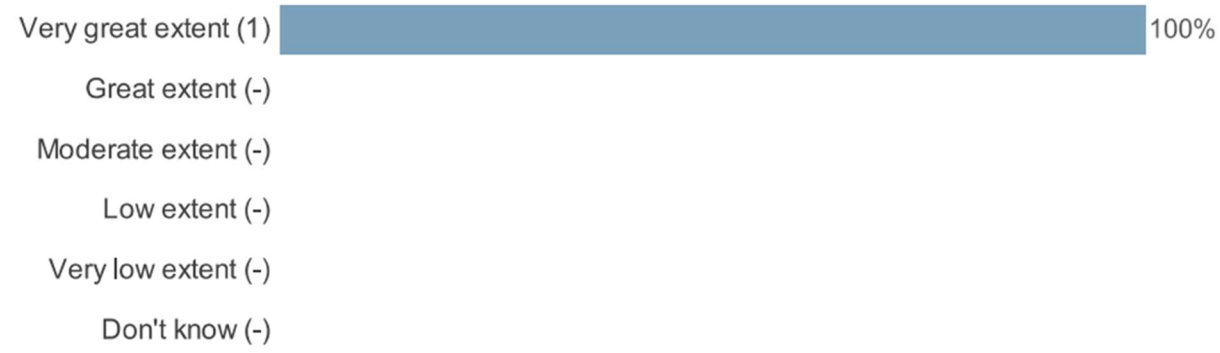
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



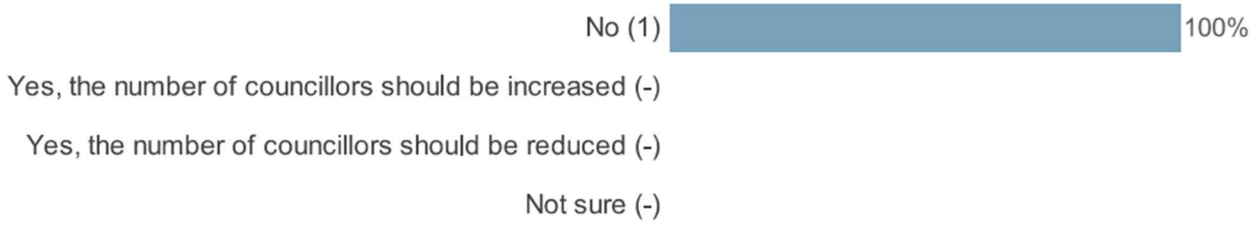
To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)
No answer

74. Tilsworth No responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

75. Tingrith 31 responses

The following information was provided alongside the Tingrith parish profile prior to the consultation launch.

Tingrith is one of eight parishes which do not have a council but rather meets as a parish meeting. The forecast development to March 2030 is estimated at no further dwellings. The parish boundary adjoins the neighbouring parishes of Eversholt, Flitwick, Milton Bryan, Toddington and Westoning. The parish, together with the parishes of Flitton and Greenfield, Pulloxhill and Westoning are coterminous (i.e. they border each other in the same area) within the Central Bedfordshire ward of Westoning, Flitton and Greenfield.

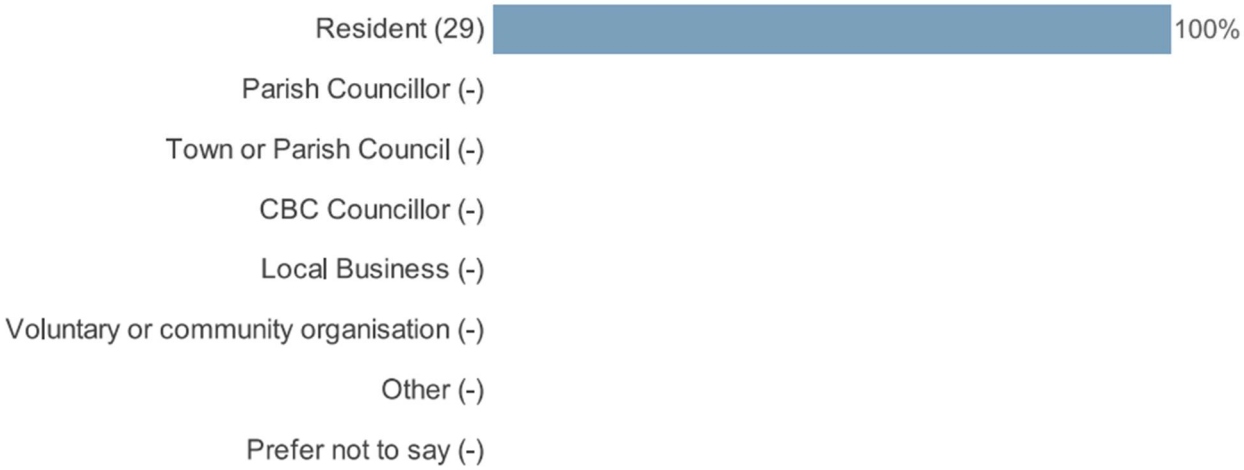
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

The Parish Meeting would like to formally request a review of the current boundary between Tingrith and Westoning – adjusting the boundary to include Chestnuts Caravan Park and Wood End (see attached map – proposed new boundary in red). The boundary follows the River Flit, wood, road and field boundaries.

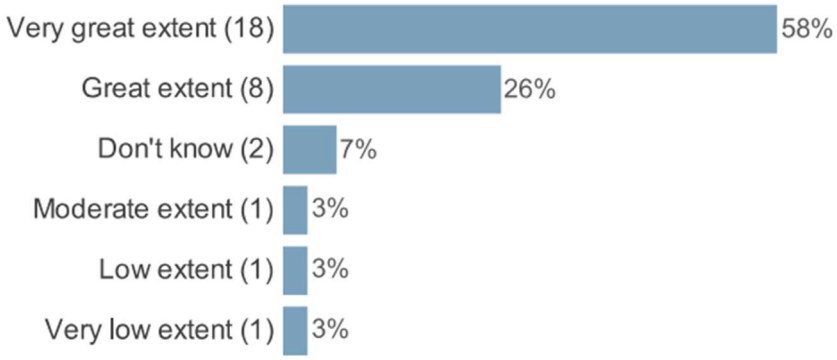
We feel this adjustment would more accurately reflect the geographical, historical and community ties. It is also in response to representations from residents. The adjustment would have several benefits, including:

- Improved representation – residents in The Chestnuts and Wood End are more aligned to a small village community. Some already contribute to the parish and participate in the parish meetings. A revised boundary would allow for more accurate representation and participation in local governance.
- Community cohesion – the current boundary divides areas with strong historical and social connections. The postal addresses reflect this as they include Tingrith.
- Local development plans – with the expansion plans for Westoning, the hamlet of Wood End better aligns with a small village such as Tingrith.

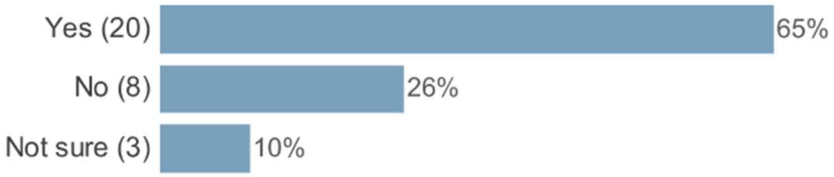
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"AS PER OUR PROPOSAL AS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED REVISED BOUNDARY TO INCLUDE WOOD END AND CHESTNUTS"

"Tingrith's parish boundary be changed to incorporate Chestnuts Caravan Park and Wood End."

"I live in Wood End, with a Tingrith post code / address & am already part of the Tingrith community which is 1 mile from, I do know have any personal relationships in Westoning which is 3/4 miles away & far removed from me / my house..."

"increase our boundary to include Wood End and Chestnuts Caravan Park"

"I would like to see the current request made at the last parish meeting to extend the boundary to include Chestnuts and Wood End for all the reasons given at the meeting."

"~The boundary should be changed to include Tingrith Woodend and Chestnuts caravan park as per the proposal in the parish profiles directory for Tingrith"

"I support the proposal made by Tingrith Parish Meeting to change the parish boundary to incorporate Chestnuts Caravan Park and Wood End into Tingrith Parish. Residents of Wood End

have close ties with Tingrith and are active in the Tingrith community, having little contact with Westoning, whilst Chestnuts is very close to the main village of Tingrith but miles away from Westoning village."

"We should incorporate chestnuts and wood end"

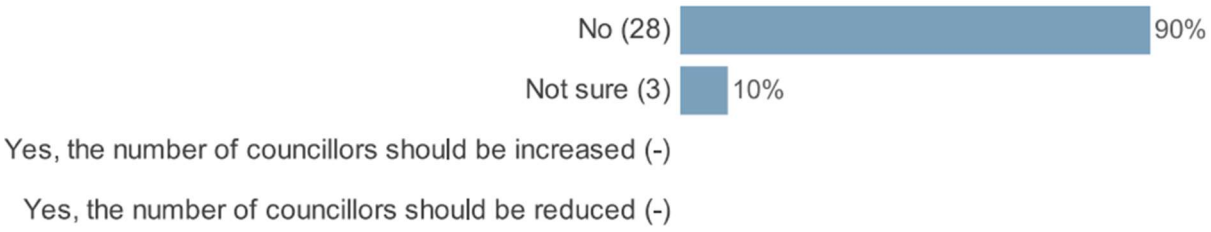
"Tingrith has a strong sense of community and identity which we must preserve. The parish boundary should be extended as proposed by the parish meeting to include Wood End and Chestnuts because people in Wood End already identify as part of our village."

"The proposal to include Chestnuts and Wood End put forward by Tingrith PM makes absolutely sense – geographically, more representative"

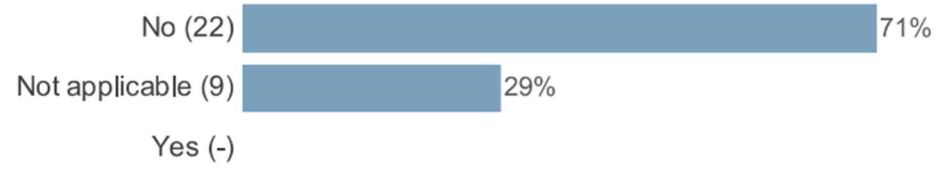
"Redraw the parish boundary to include Wood End into Tingrith parish"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Tingrith should stay as it is!! Don't try and fix something that isn't broken!"

"AS PER OUR PROPOSAL AS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED REVISED BOUNDARY TO INCLUDE WOOD END AND CHESTNUTS"

"I object to the proposed merger of Tingrith with larger neighbouring parishes such as Westoning or Harlington. Tingrith has a unique village identity and a longstanding tradition of self-governance that risks being diluted under a merged parish structure. Such a move would likely lead to higher council tax rates without a proportional increase in local services or representation. Decisions affecting Tingrith could be made by councillors with no direct connection to our village, undermining community trust and local accountability. I instead support the Parish Meeting's alternative proposal to expand Tingrith's boundary to include Wood End and Chestnuts Caravan Park, which reflects a more logical and locally supported solution for community development."

"Tingrith is a rural hamlet and has strong local community culture therefore I believe it should be kept as a separate parish and I object to any potential merger with another parish. I am for the boundary change recommended with wood End as this would help bring our two villages into alignment as we already are involved with each others local communities. As a small community we need our local representation to continue."

"It is really important for me to continue to be included in the Tingrith community, with its strong community spirit & identity, as Wood End is so cut off."

"All working very well please leave things alone"

"Although there are no proposals for this I would prefer Tingrith to be in the ward of Eversholt as it has much closer ties with Eversholt both distance wise and community wise than with Westoning."

"Tingrith is a small village with its own identity and community feel. It is very different from the larger villages the council consider merging it with, they have shops, schools, transport links so their priorities would engulf those of a small village like Tingrith."

"Tingrith Parish has a proud history, a very strong sense of identity, a close community and a very active Parish Meeting. I would object strongly to any proposal to merge it with another parish. I support the proposal to increase the parish to include Chestnuts and Wood End. Wood End was historically part of Tingrith and has far more in common with a small rural parish, such as Tingrith, classed as open countryside, than a village earmarked for significant development such as Westoning."

"I would like to strongly object to any potential merger of Tingrith with another Parish, this will significantly dilute the village cohesion and local goodwill."

"I would support change in the boundaries to include the Chestnuts site and Wood End. We in Tingrith have a very strong sense of identity and community and do not this changed at al"l

"Tingrith has a very strong sense of community/identity. We would support change in boundary to include Chestnuts and Wood end."

"I am supportive of the boundary to include chestnuts and woodend but I do feel strongly that we should not be merged with a larger parish such as westoning or harlington as we will lose our strong identity. If anything we should be merged with eversholt which we have a stronger association with"

"It's vitally important that villages like Tingrith are able to preserve their identity. We have a strong community feeling which would be eroded and our own requirements would be overwhelmed if we were simply annexed to another larger area that is geographically far away and socially very different from our community."

"Tingrith is a wonderful balance of different socio economic groups, young and old, home owners and renters. We're a tight knit community who have worked hard to ensure people can interact or stay more private without feeling pressured or judged … and where everyone feels supported. This only happens because of our size. We have a culture and identity which is highly valued and we'd like to protect it by ensuring we don't grow and get caught up in urban creep."

"We have a massively strong community identity here in Tingrith, and it would be dreadful if we lost this by merging with another parish. This cannot happen. We need to stay as our own separate parish. We wish to be able to have full control over our parish, and not have a larger group make decisions on our behalf when they do not even live here. We have a very strong parish meeting with lots of residents taking an active interest. This needs to be protected. I do not support the proposed change in boundary to include Wood End or Chestnuts caravan park."

"Tingrith is a community full of people with their own identity and do not want to change this"

"Tingrith is a community full of people with their own identity and do not want to change this"

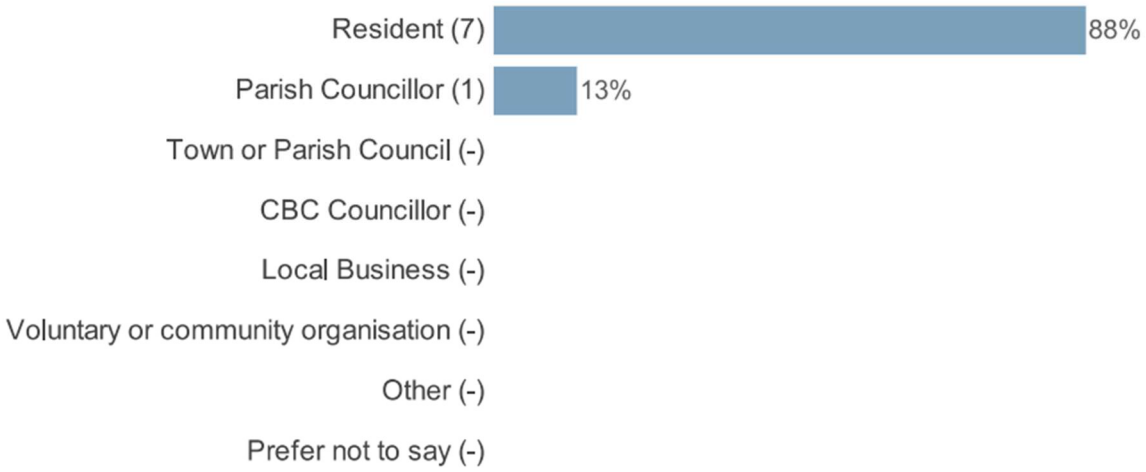
(although the same these are from two separate respondents)

76. Toddington 8 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

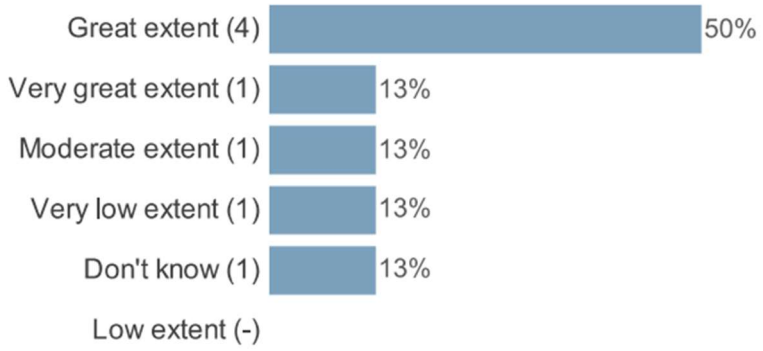
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

"Totternhoe"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



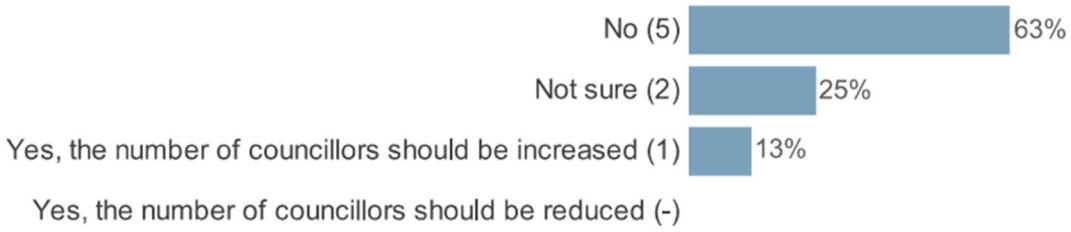
Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"The parish extends beyond the M1 to the east which seems to form a barrier. There is a small area beyond the M1 which might be better joined to the Harlington Parish"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"A growing number of houses and residents in the parish"

If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"I think our Parish Council serves and represents the local community of Toddington well."

"This parish works well and should not be interfered with"

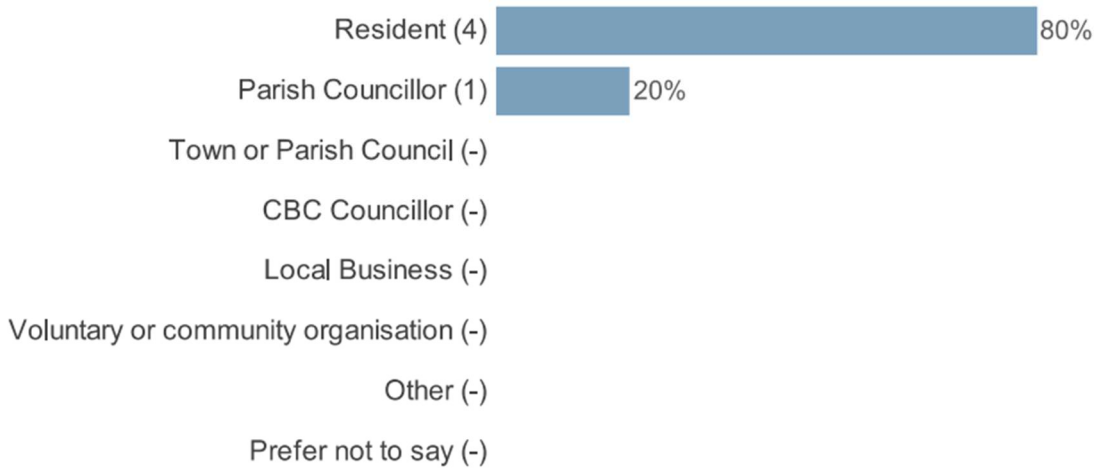
"Totternhoe Eaton Bray and Billington Parish Councils now form a Ward named Eaton Bray with one elected Ward Councillor on Central Bedfordshire Council I consider the 3 Parish Councils should be amalgamated to form one large Council to represent the current population of the 3 Villages with 2 elected Councillors from each current Parish to represent that parish so making the new Ward Council have a total of6 Councillors on the Ward Council and that there should be 2 elected Ward Councillors for this Ward on the Central Bedfordshire Excutive Council"

77. Totternhoe 5 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

Totternhoe Parish Council has undertaken a government review as proposed under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the guidance issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government.
The parish council examined its boundaries and reviewed their relevance in reflecting local identities and considered that in one area the boundary between the parish and Dunstable had become anomalous.
The existing boundary between the parish and the Badgers Gate development on the western edge of Dunstable follows the byway open to all traffic which leads from Dunstable Road, Totternhoe, to the byway known as Green Lane. The boundary, in our view, should follow the field boundary adjacent to the Badgers Gate houses instead. The field is within the Green Belt that washes over Totternhoe and is in the ownership of a Totternhoe farmer.

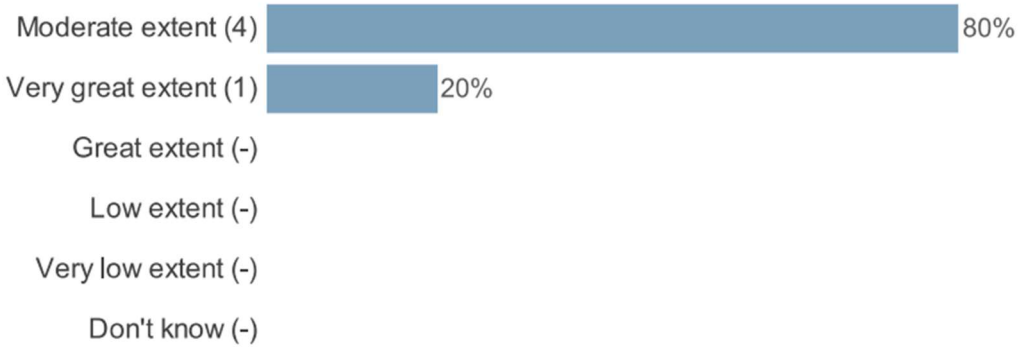
Are you responding as: (please select one)



If Parish Councillor, which parish is this for?

"Totternhoe"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



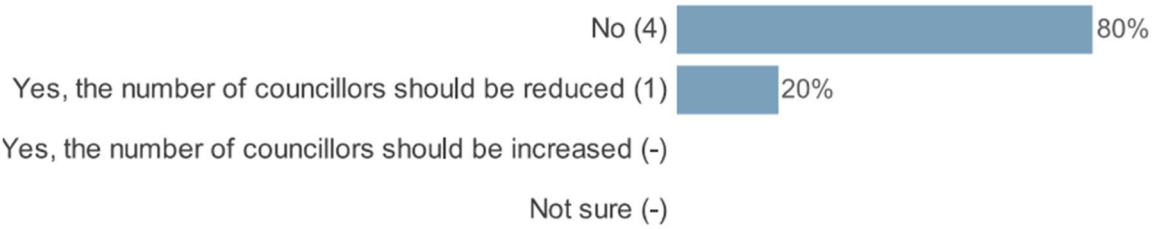
Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"Boundary with Dunstable is land based rather than population based."

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"Reduced to 7 as ratio is high and have uncontested elections"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

If yes, please provide details of the proposals including; any proposed ward boundaries and the number of councillors and reasoning for these changes, if applicable:

"Totternhoe parish is fine as is however the council need's younger representation as current councillors are stuck in their ways and nothing of significance ever gets done. The key issue is speeding through the village which needs speeds bumps. Other villages get them why not Totternhoe?"

Do you have any further comments?

"The shame is most of our parish councillors have been on the PC for years and are now elderly, it really now does desperately need new people elected. The challenge is to get people to step up"

78. Westoning 7 responses

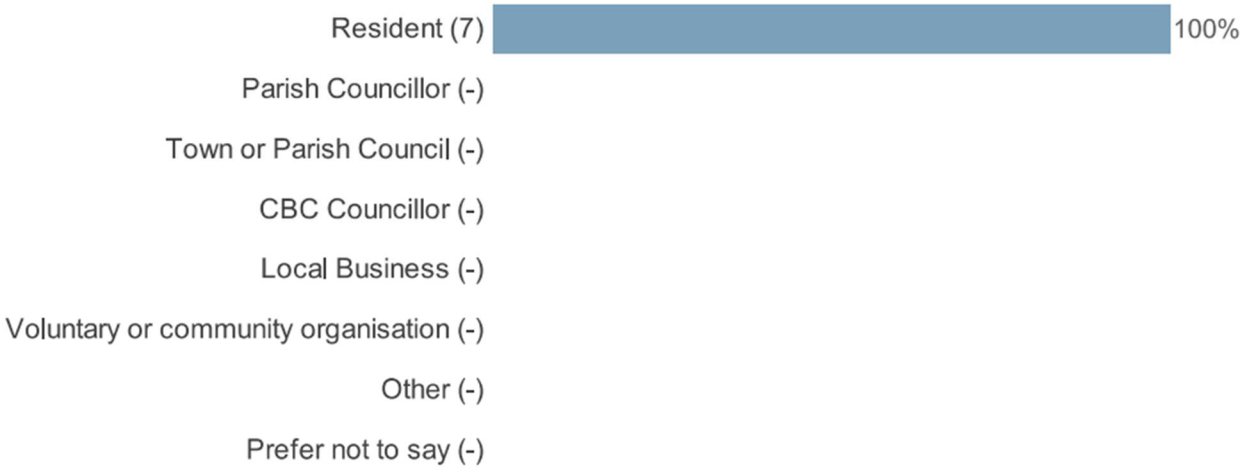
Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

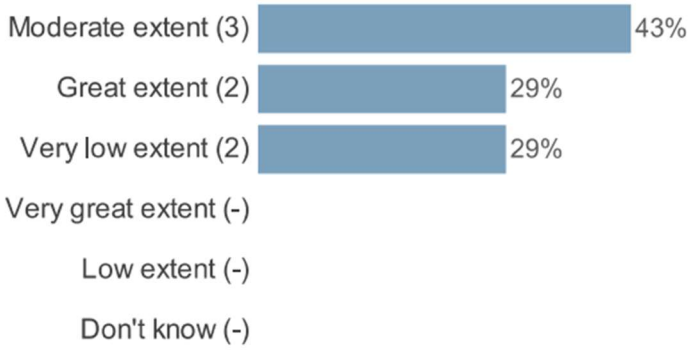
Review of property anomalies

Brunswick House is in the parish of Gravenhurst but is geographically in the parish of Westoning. Consideration should be given to rectify this anomaly.

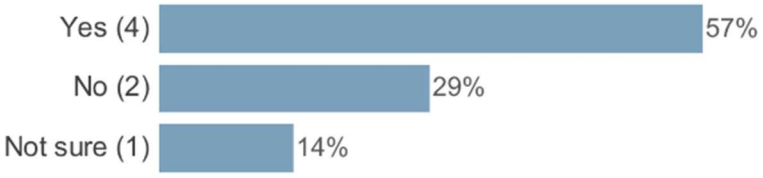
Are you responding as: (please select one)



To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?



Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?



If no/not sure please explain how it might be changed to best represent the interests of the community in that area (eg: creation of new Parish/merging two or more parishes/grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas/other changes to parish boundary)

"It makes no sense that Lovett Green/Close is part of Westoning Parish - it should be part of Harlington or Gravenhurst Parish."

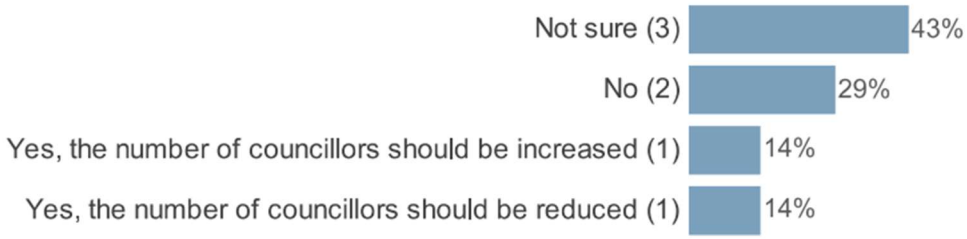
"Westoning is very much concerned with the village and its residents. We are remote from this environment and would be better suited to a more rural based community as Tingrith"

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

If no, please propose a new name and provide a reason for the change:

"The parish name of Westoning reflects a village urban environment. We are somewhat distant from the village and closer to Tingrith"

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If yes, please indicate a number and the reasons for change:

"8 - the council can't fill the current number of 10."

"New house building had increased the village population"

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

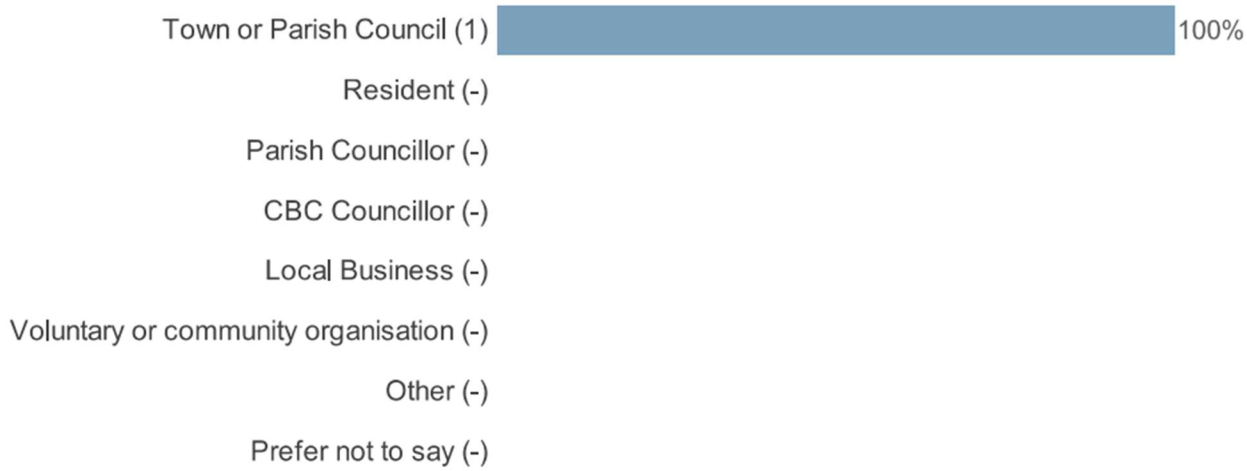
"Westoning Council is completely undemocratic, never having had an election. It is perceived as a clique and they ask those that they favour and are like minded to join. There is no sense of community fostered by the parish Council, there is no village newsletter for example, each organisation is preparing its own flyers for the new houses as there is no newsletter or website of activities withing the village"

79. Whipsnade 1 response

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)



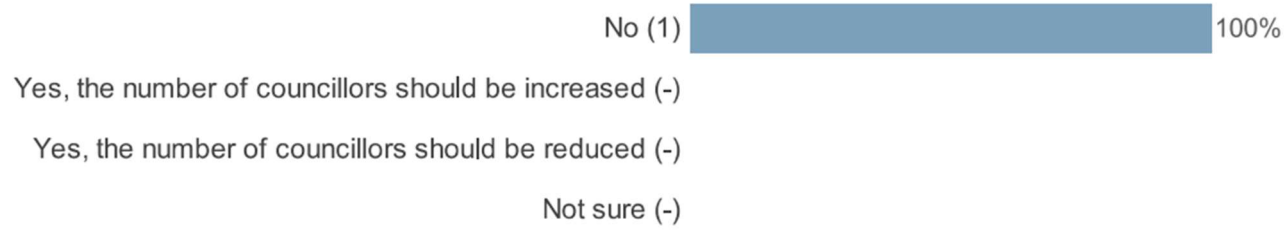
If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

"Whipsnade PC"

To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

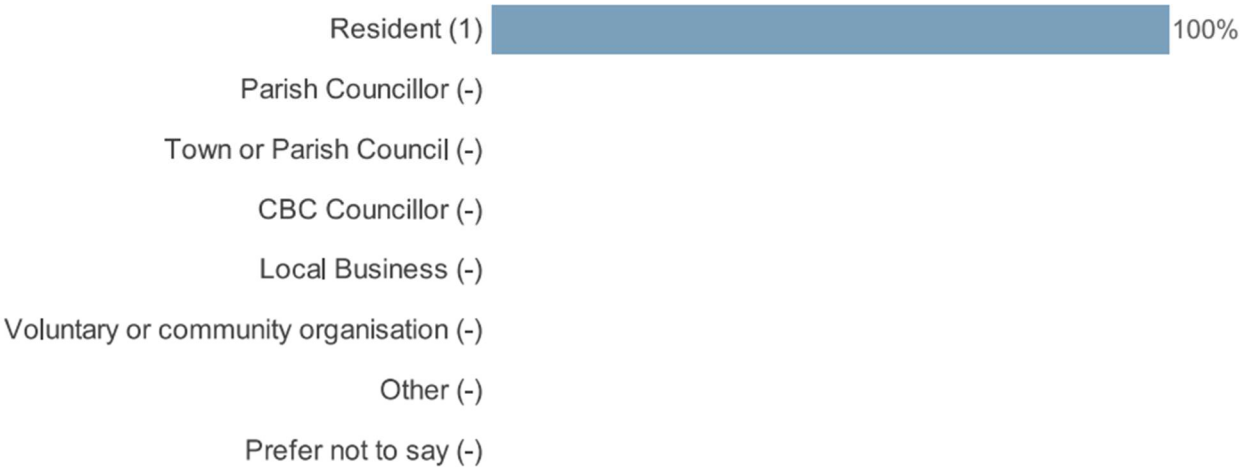
"The current boundary is one that is steeped in heritage and history, it is also the Ecclesiastical boundary. All historical records refer to and are defined by this boundary and it would be very confusing to have it changed. Cllrs can see no benefit in changes being made to the current boundary."

80. Woburn 1 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

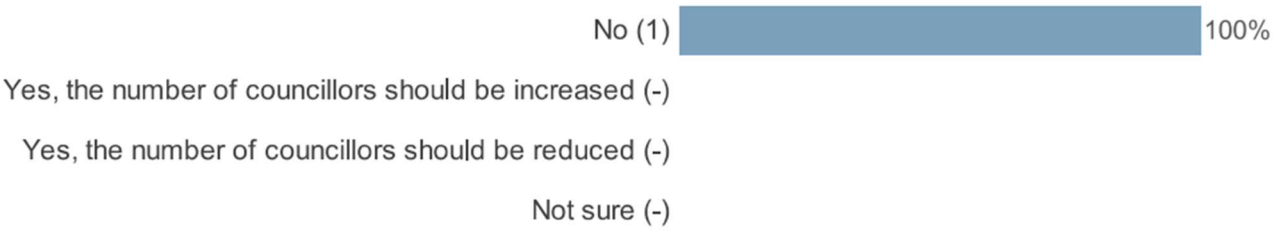


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)
No answer

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)
No answer

Do you have any further comments?

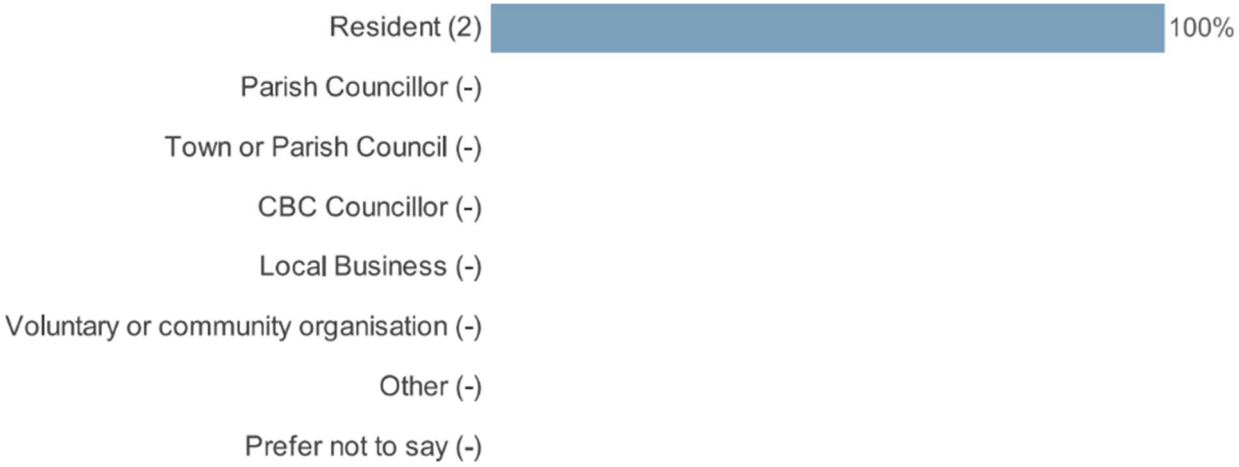
"I think there should be better oversight of the parish council... and spending by an independent body."

81. Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley 2 responses

Parish/town council initial proposal for consideration for the 2025 review

No proposal received.

Are you responding as: (please select one)

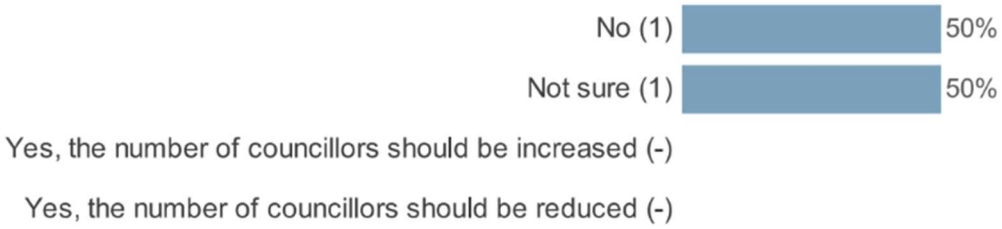


To what extent do you think that this parish reflects the local community with a shared identity?

Do you think that the parish boundary is suitable for the community?

Do you think the name of the parish reflects the community and its identity?

Should the number of councillors in this local parish council be changed?



If applicable, should this local parish be divided into parish wards?

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the wards be changed/added to?)

If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the ward boundaries be removed?)

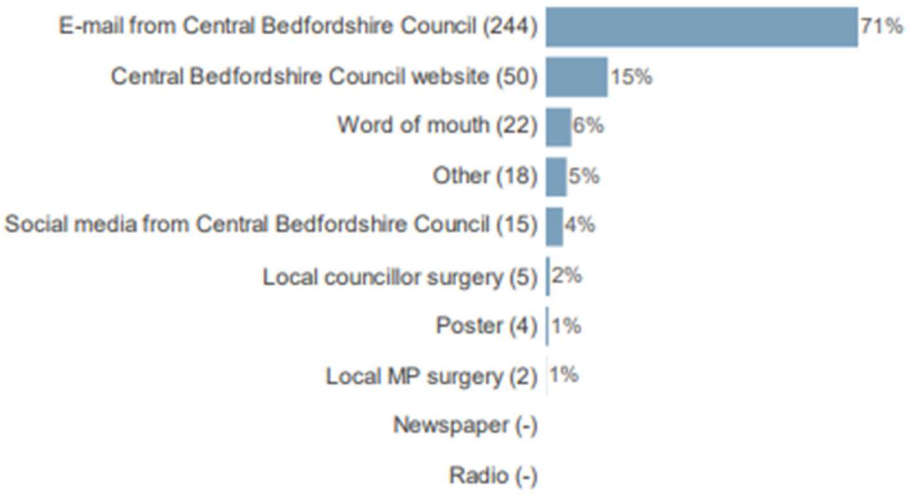
If the local parish is currently warded: (Should the number of councillors representing each ward be changed?)

Do you have any further comments?

"Local governance is hard to find support for and hard to please"

Demographics

How did you hear about this consultation?

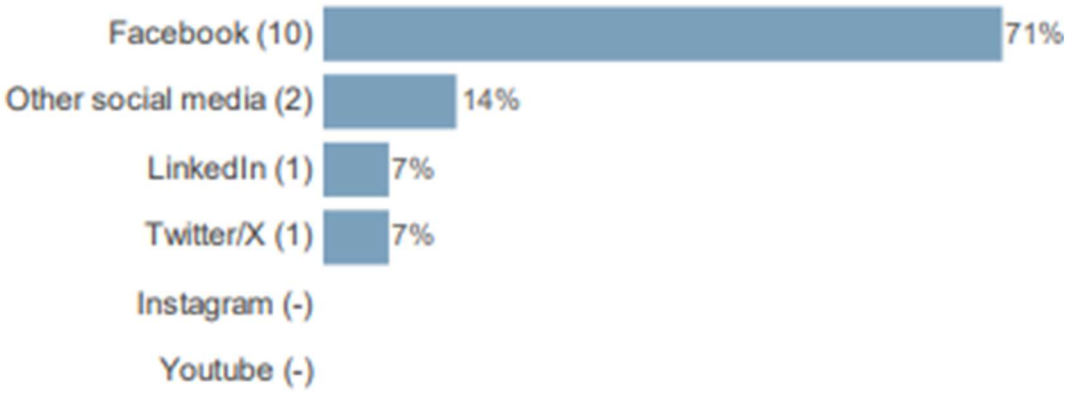


If other, please tell us:

- From parish council (6)
- Neighbour (2)
- Facebook (2)
- Article by Parish Council in village magazine. Facebook

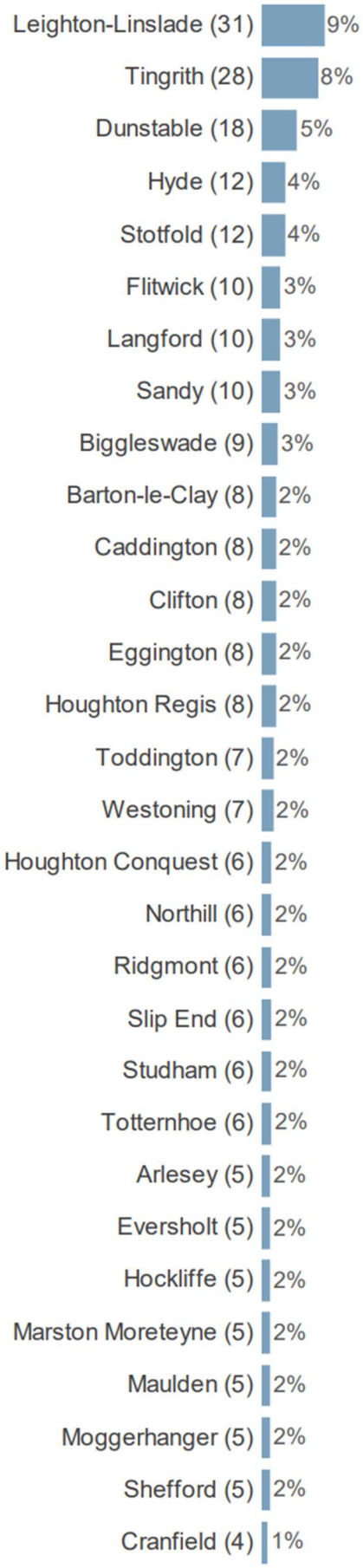
- Local WhatsApp group
- Local community facebook group
- Town council arranged community engagement
- Email from the parish clerk.

If social media, please tell us which one:



If other social media, please specify:

Email



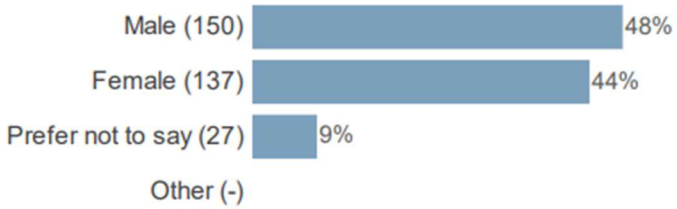
Which parish do you currently live in?

Dunton (4), Meppershall (4), Putton (4), Silsoe (4), Aspley Guise (3), Flitton & Greenfield (3), Harlington (3), Stanbridge (3), Stondon (3), Ampthill (2), Aspley Heath (2), Billington (2), Campton & Chicksands (2), Clophill (2), Everton (2), Fairfield (2), Heath & Reach (2), Henlow (2), Husborne Crawley (2), Pulloxhill (2), Shillington (2), Sutton (2), Wrestlingworth & Cockayne Hatley (2)

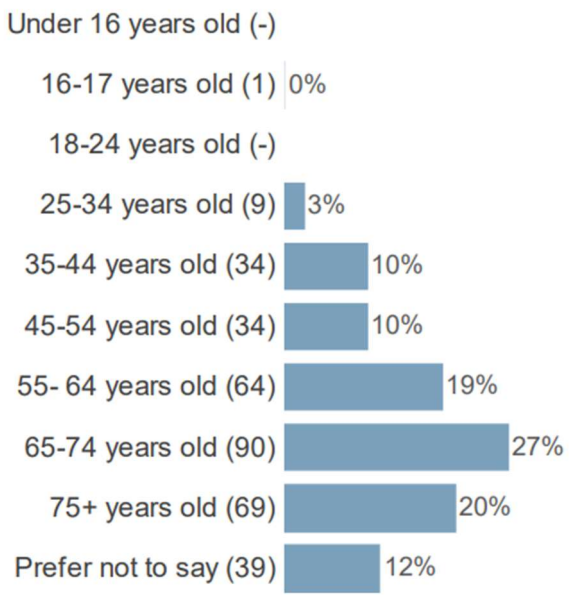
Blunham (1), Chalgrave (1), Eaton Bray (1), Gravenhurst (1), Haynes (1), Kensworth (1), Lidlington (1), Southill (1), Steppingley (1), Streatley (1), Tempsford (1), Woburn (1)

None of these/outside Central Bedfordshire (3)

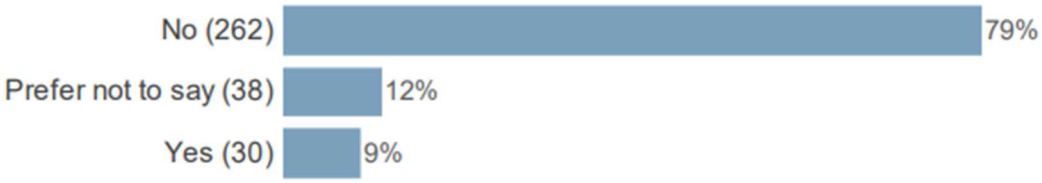
Are you: (please select one)



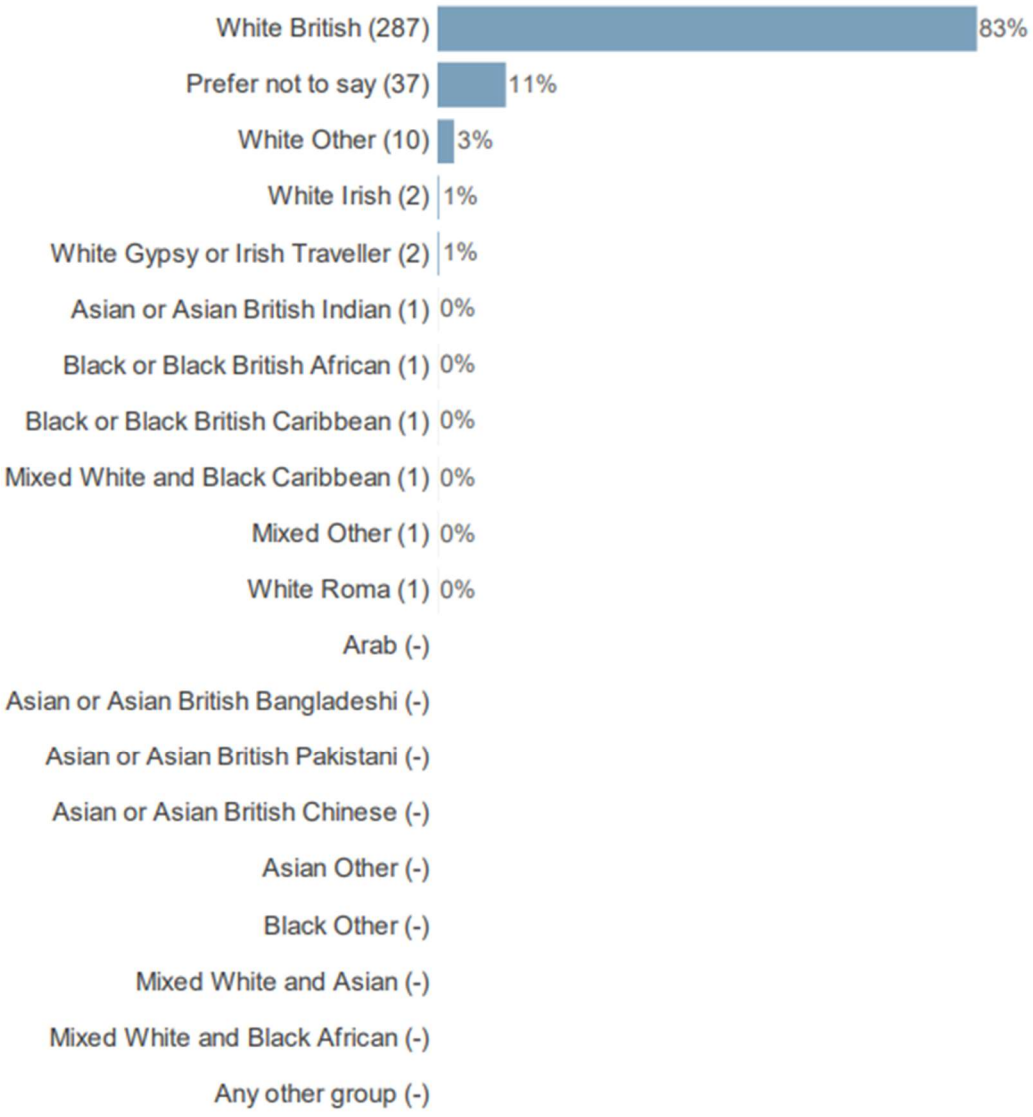
What is your age? (please select one)



Do you consider yourself disabled? (please select one) Under the Equality Act 2010 a person is considered to have a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a sustained and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.



To which of these groups do you consider you belong? (please select one)

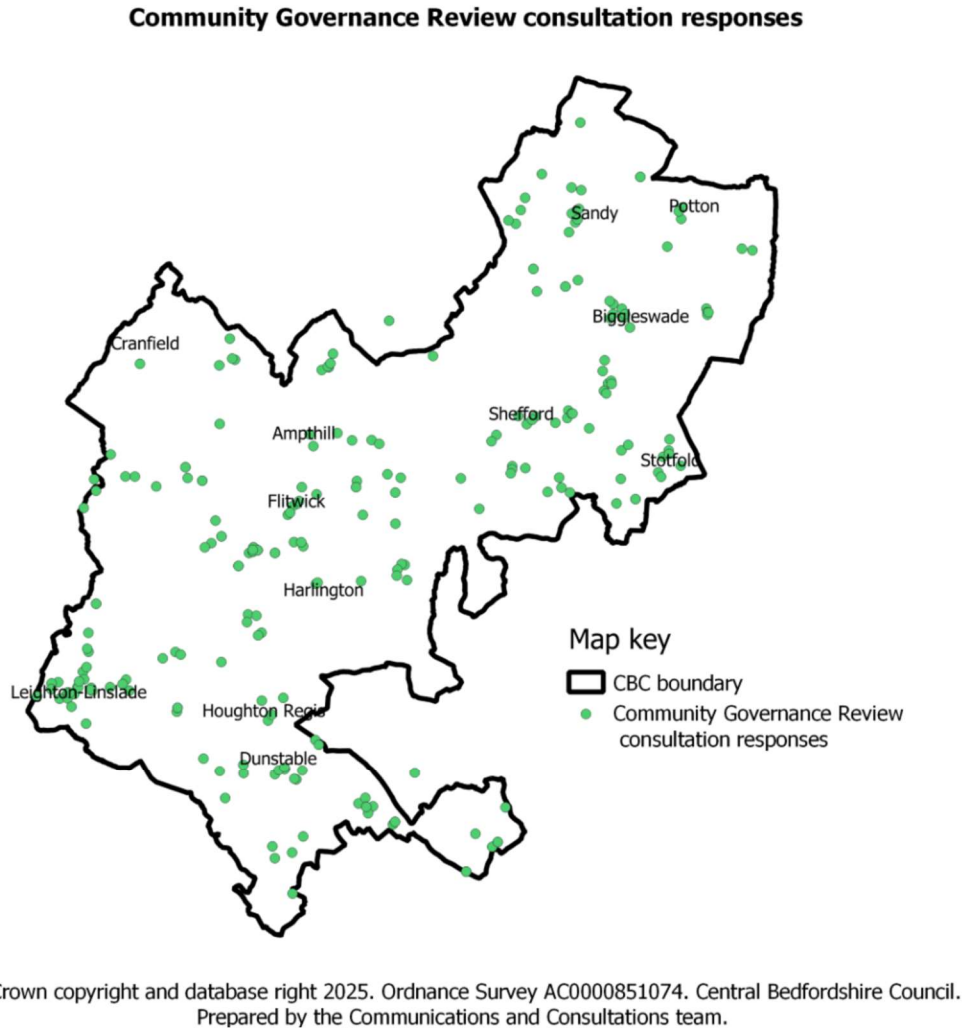


If other, please specify:

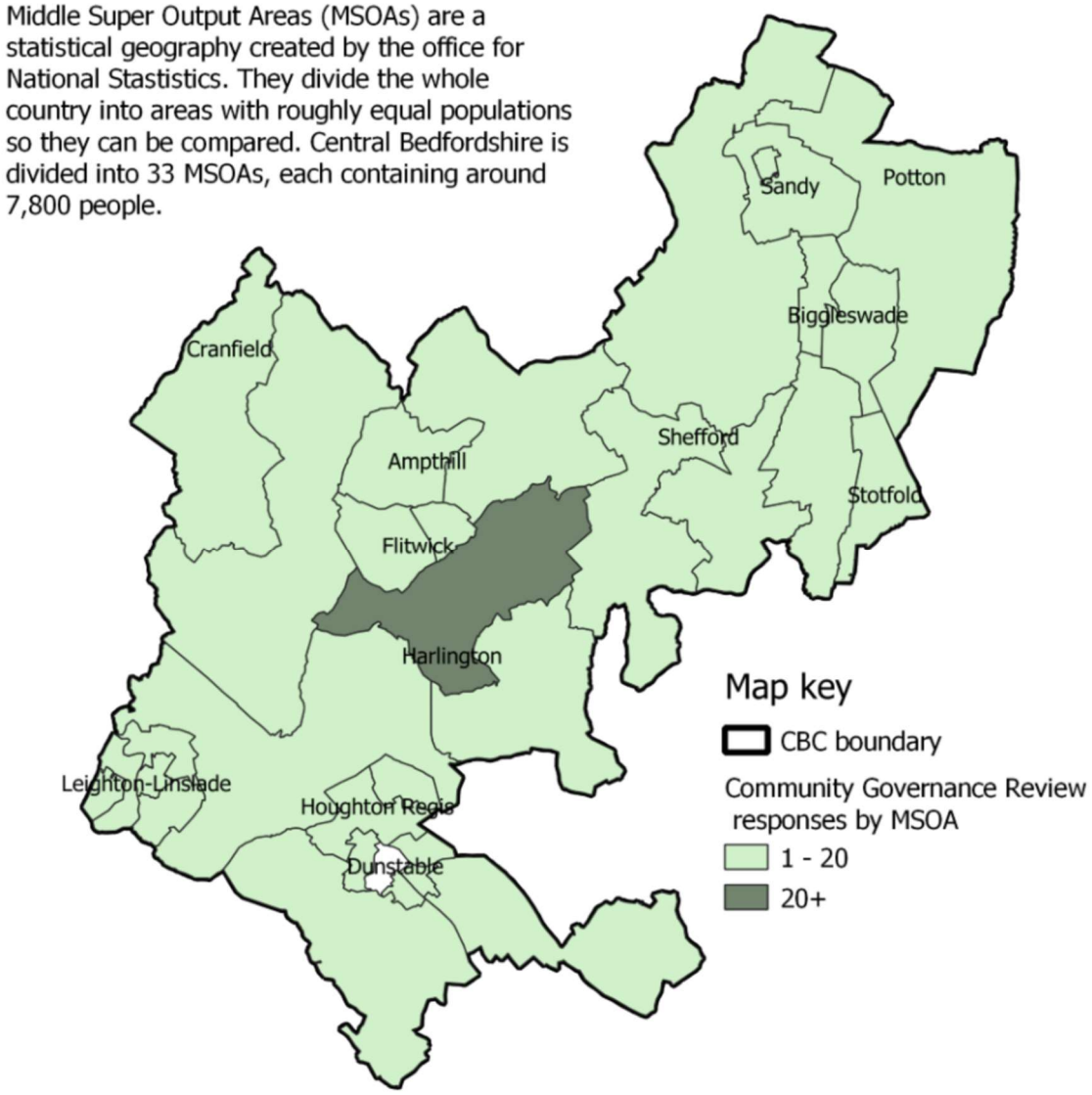
French (1), White English (1), English (1), Polish/British (1), European White (1), British/European (1), European (1)

Postcode and Acorn analysis

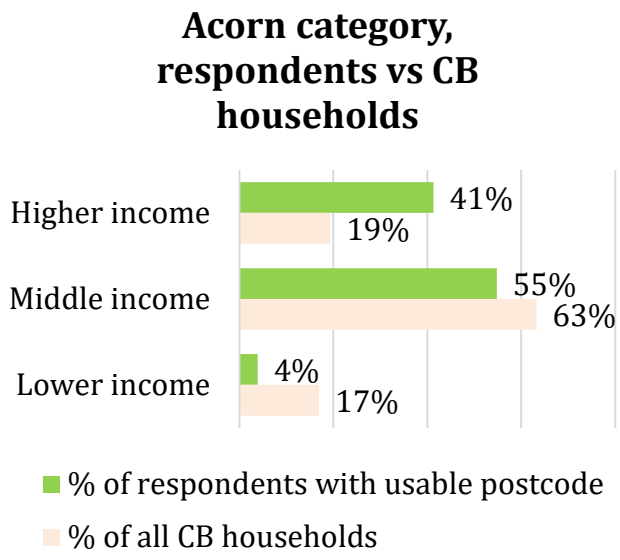
A review of postcodes indicates that respondents were from all parts of Central Bedfordshire, with clusters of responses around the towns.



Community Governance Review consultation responses



Responses were received from a range of households. Higher income households were much more likely to respond and lower income households were less likely to respond. The proportion of responses from middle income households was similar to their proportion in the overall population.



Broad divisions	Respondents with a usable postcode	% of respondents with a usable postcode	% of all Central Bedfordshire households
Higher income	107	41%	19%
Middle income	142	55%	63%
Lower income	10	4%	17%
Total, with usable postcode	259	100%	100%

Appendix

In addition to the reponses reveived in the consultation, we received separate representations/responses by letter from the following:

- **1.Northill Parish Council**
- **2.Kensworth Parish Council**
- **3.Joint Cllrs Leighton Linslade**
- **4.Biggleswade Town Council**
- **5.Eaton Bray Parish Council**
- **6.Stotfold Town Council**

1. Northill Parish Council

We received the following letter regarding the consultation from Northill Parish Council.

Good morning,

I am writing on behalf of Northill Parish Council in response to the ongoing Community Governance Review.

Following discussion at our most recent council meeting, members agreed that we are firmly in favour of maintaining our current parish boundary, with the River Ivel remaining the defining border—rather than any realignment to the A1.

We would also like to highlight that Northill Parish Council is an active and fully functioning council, comprising 12 proactive councillors, with no difficulty in filling vacancies when they arise.

In summary, the Council is operating effectively, collaboratively, and in the best interests of the parish community. We are content with the current arrangements and do not support any changes to our existing governance or boundaries.

Northill Parish Council

2. Kensworth Parish Council

We received the following letter regarding the consultation from Kensworth Parish Council.

Hello,

Here are the findings from Kensworth Parish Council:

Kensworth Parish Council – Response to Central Bedfordshire Council Community Governance Review Consultation 2025.

Kensworth Parish Council reviewed and considered the current governance arrangements for the Parish of Kensworth.

It found that there was no beneficial reason to change, alter or amend existing governance arrangements for Kensworth at this time, this includes no boundary change across neighbouring parishes and no change in the number of member seats for Kensworth Parish Council.

The council remains committed to serving the local community by providing and improving services and amenities available and encourages regular engagement through public participation at monthly meetings and events.

Kind regards

Kensworth Parish Council

3. Joint Cllrs Leighton-Linslade

We received the following letter and accompanying response.

Please find attached a paper containing 3 Nr recommendations relating to proposed and potential boundary changes because of major housing developments across or potentially affecting the current Leighton-Linslade Parish boundary. We trust it will receive fair consideration from the Working Group.

The third recommendation relates to a request for a PABR for the Western boundary of

Linslade in the parish of Leighton-Linslade that I know warrants a separate procedure to the CGR.

Community Governance Review Stage 1 consultation report

This submission is from both Cllr Owen and me, as CBC members, together with both the Independent and Labour group councillors on Leighton-Linslade Town Council (6Nr)

Please acknowledge safe receipt of the attached document.

Best wishes & Regards

Russ

Cllr Russell Goodchild

Independent Alliance Ward Member for Leighton-Linslade West

Central Bedfordshire Council

Member – Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Authority

Member – Bedfordshire Police & Crime Panel

CBC Community Governance Review 2025

(1) Proposal for change to the existing boundary of Leighton-Linslade Parish to incorporate the new residential development of Clipstone Park, Stearn Land, Leedon and the Pastures, currently within the parish of Eggington

Submitted by Independent District and Town Cllrs Russ Goodchild and Steve Owen jointly with Labour group Town Cllrs Jane Gibson, Pat Carberry, Mike Bishop and Peter McMorrow

The Local Authority CGR Working Party is kindly asked to review the following pertinent criteria that are listed for consideration within the LGBCE guidelines:

a). Local Governance Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Recommendations

The recommendations resulting from the LGBCE electoral review of Central Bedfordshire published in January 2021 made specific provision for local governance of the new development of Clipstone Park to be incorporated within the Local Authority (CBC) Ward of Leighton-Linslade North and further recommended the provision of an additional member within the Planets ward of Leighton-Linslade Town Council.

These government recommendations sent a strong signal to the Principal Authority and both affected local parish councils that they expected their recommendations to be formally confirmed by the Principal Authority.

However, the Principal Authority subsequently failed to allocate the urban extension to the parish ward of Planets contrary to the recommendations in respect of parish governance made by LGBCE. Instead the Principal Authority chose to create a second parish ward of Eggington-Clipstone Park, to cater specifically for the residents whose new community is located some hundreds of metres across a significant area of 'no-mans' land from the existing village community of Eggington, thus forming an unnecessary barrier to community cohesion between the two wards representing the new and existing parish communities.

The consequences of this unfortunate decision by the Principal Authority has not only been divisive for the effected Eggington communities but it has also left a disproportionate elector/councillor ratio in Leighton-Linslade Planets parish ward given that the new parish community was not subsequently allocated to its governance.

b). Community Cohesion

The current electorate within the new Eggington-Clipstone Park Ward has grown to 1,559 and is expected to rise to 1,982 by the year 2030. By comparison, the existing Eggington-

Village Ward records an electorate of 185 and this is only expected to increase to 187 by 2030.

These figures clearly highlight a significant imbalance in that the distant Clipstone Park community will swamp the existing village community by a factor of 10 by the year 2030 and, given the current allocation of parish council seats of 5 for Clipstone Park and 2 for Eggington Village, then the village community will inevitably have any real influence over the decision making for the future of their village. We contend that this situation does not contribute toward the required community cohesion.

In addition, the current status of the Clipstone Park development that straddles the joint boundary of both Leighton-Linslade and Eggington remains a divisive factor given that both communities look toward the commercial centre of Leighton Buzzard for shopping, charter market, leisure, medical, dental and other services provided by Leighton-Linslade Town Council. These services are of course provided through the annual precept raised by the Town Council from the residents within their parish but of course, the increasing numbers of the Eggington-Clipstone Park residents do not contribute a penny toward the provision of these services.

Whilst we recognize that the level of parish council tax should not be an issue in deciding future governance, it remains to say that the very principle of residents receiving 'free' services from an adjacent parish creates a degree of divisiveness that fails to meet the required community cohesion criteria.

c). Effective and Convenient Governance

In previous Community Governance Reviews, the Principal Authority has stated that it 'wants to ensure that parish governance in our area continues to be robust, representative, and enabled to meet the challenges that lie before it'.

Historically, the community of Eggington has remained a small rural village with residents rarely exceeding 200 and has managed its affairs through a small parish council administered by one part-time employee acting as clerk and finance officer overseeing local council services such as roadside seating, dog waste bins, litter bins and grass maintenance.

The Eggington parish boundary has not been redrawn since the early 1980's when the hamlet of Leedon was incorporated within Leighton-Linslade parish following the extensive development of the Meadow Way residential estate. Had this development remained within Eggington parish then the new population would have swamped the existing community by a factor of at least three to one.

As stated previously, the new development of Clipstone Park has the potential of swamping the existing village community by a factor of ten to one and that will create a demand on the current parish administration far in excess than that threatening them in the 1980's. That would require a significant increase of built and human resources to provide the varied services demanded by the new community.

However, these services, are currently being accessed and enjoyed by residents of Clipstone Park without any financial contribution or political influence as they are provided by the neighbouring Leighton-Linslade Town Council, with a complement of full time officers and experienced parks and cemetery personnel. Indeed, the Town Council has been a NALC Gold standard 'Quality' parish Council for a number of years and remains one of the top fifty parish councils in the country. Access to the Town Council offices is convenient and their experienced specialist resources are more than capable of absorbing the infrastructure maintenance requirements from the new community area.

We contend that Leighton-Linslade Town Council has a proven record in service delivery is best placed to provide the range and quality of services effectively to the new community of Clipstone Park as it currently provides within it's own parish.

d). Community Identity

The need to secure that community governance reflects the identity and interests of a community is a further criteria set by the LGBCE for the Principal Authority to have regard to.

There can be no argument that the development at Clipstone Park was designed and incorporated within a masterplan specifically as an urban extension to the existing town of Leighton Buzzard. All advertising material contained in the sales documentation issued to prospective buyers by every developer on the estate referred to this specific point:

- Developer 1: "Clipstone Park is a highly sought-after new community in Leighton Buzzard"
- Developer 2: "Clipstone Park is a popular development in the historic market town of Leighton Buzzard. You'll benefit from the best of town and country living. This is a great family destination to set down roots"
- Developer 3: "Located just 1.5 miles away from the centre of Leighton Buzzard, homebuyers have everything a 21st Century lifestyle demands. An eclectic mix of independent stores and boutiques, coffee shops, restaurants, pubs and bars adorn the streets of the historic Leighton Buzzard Town"

Every newly arriving resident was fully aware that they were coming to reside in a development that extended the community of Leighton Buzzard but herein lies the dichotomy where they find themselves in a rural parish in governance terms.

The housing mix within the Clipstone Park area is certainly more of a match in terms of design and density with that of the adjacent existing 'Planets' development, but significantly different than the housing mix found in the village of Eggington.

e). Proposed Future Governance

The analysis of the current and future electorate numbers in respect of the District Ward of Leighton-Linslade North is as follows:

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE NORTH					Table 1A
Parish	**Ward**	**Current 2025**	**Forecast 2030**	**Parish Councillors**	**Elector Ratio 2030**
Leighton-Linslade	Planets	3,550	3,831	3	1,277
Leighton-Linslade	Plantation	3,184	3,623	2	1,811
Leighton-Linslade	St. Georges	3,602	3,638	2	1,819
Eggington	Clipstone Park	1,559	1,982	5	396
Totals		**11,985**	**13,074**	**12**	

In order to offset the resultant increased numbers in Leighton-Linslade Planets parish ward due to this proposed boundary change, we would further suggest a transfer of the electorate within the existing L-L Planets ward book LBN-PLS3, some 728 electors, reverting back to the parish ward of L-L Brooklands and district ward of Leighton-Linslade South which would also correct the anomaly of the relationship of this area with Planets ward, that has existed for a number of years.

The effect of these changes on Leighton-Linslade North and South District Wards can be shown as follows:

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE NORTH					Table 1B
Parish	**Ward**	**Adjusted 2025**	**Adjusted 2030**	**Parish Councillors**	**Elector Ratio 2030**
Leighton-Linslade	Planets	4,381*	5,085*	3	1,695
Leighton-Linslade	Plantation	3,184	3,623	2	1,811
Leighton-Linslade	St. Georges	3,602	3,638	2	1,819
Totals		**11,167**	**12,346**	**7**	

***Adjusted current changes:** Transfer from Eggington–Clipstone Park :1,559
Transfer to Leighton-Linslade Brooklands: 728

***Adjusted forecast changes:** Transfer from Eggington-Clipstone Park.: 1,982
Transfer to Leighton-Linslade Brooklands: 728

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE SOUTH					Table 1C
Parish	**Ward**	**Adjusted 2025**	**Adjusted 2030**	**Parish Councillors**	**Elector Ratio 2030**
Leighton-Linslade	Brooklands	2,621*	3,349*	2	1,674
Leighton-Linslade	Grovebury	7,227	7,227	4	1,806
Leighton-Linslade	Leston	1,401	1,421	1	1,421
Totals		**11,249**	**11,997**	**7**	

***Adjusted current changes:** **Transfer from Leighton-Linslade Planets: 728**
***Adjusted forecast changes:** **Transfer from Leighton-Linslade Planets: 728**

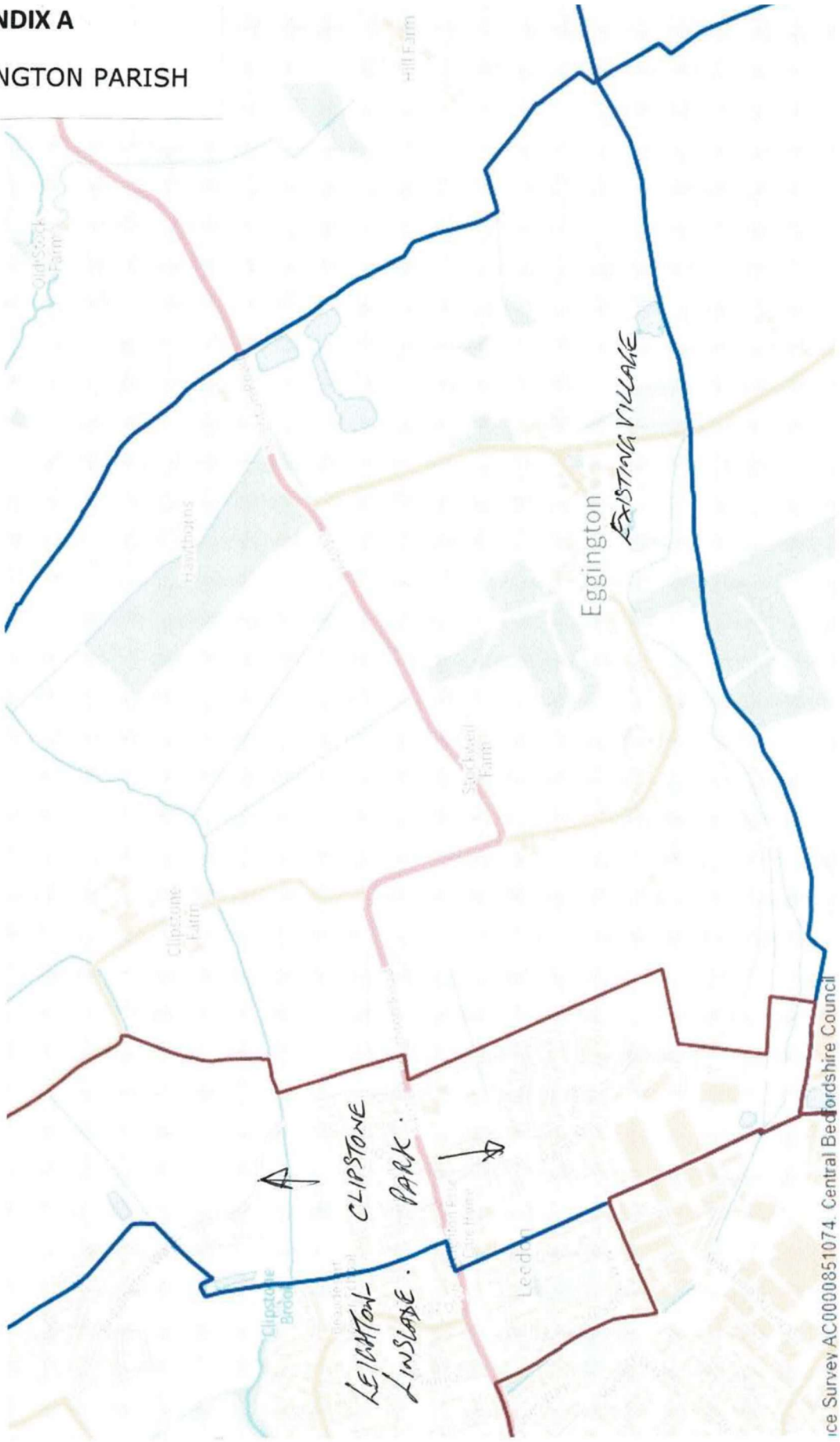
These proposed changes are intended to realise an equitable balance between the Leighton Linslade North and South District Wards and the equivalent parish wards

RECOMMENDATION #1

We propose that the existing parish boundary be changed to incorporate the current Eggington-Clipstone Park parish ward into Leighton-Linslade Planets parish ward, adopting the proposed electoral changes outlined in Tables 1B & 1C to maintain a representation of three councillors within each District Ward, and seven parish ward councillors to represent the same areas. (Refer to Appendix A)

APPENDIX A

EGGINGTON PARISH



(2) Discussion paper on a Proposal for a change to the existing Leighton-Linslade Parish boundary to incorporate the existing parish of Heath & Reach together with the proposed residential development of 3,400 homes at Checkley Wood also within the parish of Heath & Reach

Submitted by Independent CBC and Town Cllrs Russ Goodchild and Steve Owen jointly with Labour Town Cllrs Jane Gibson, Pat Carberry, Mike Bishop and Peter McMorrow

a). Community Cohesion

The village of Heath & Reach has existed for many years as a self-governed parish in their own right nestled immediately adjacent to the Leighton-Linslade parish boundary. Their residents have become respected neighbours and they have played an important part in ensuring their local commercial centre of Leighton Buzzard with it's ancient charter market has thrived.

The current electorate within the community of Heath & Reach is 1,159 and is expected to increase by only two, based on current planning information, to 1,161 by the year 2030. However, earlier this year, detailed plans were issued by a local company outlining an extensive residential development of 3,400 dwellings also providing local centres and a museum building dedicated to the sand industry. This development, whilst not yet lodged with the Planning Authority, appears to be at an advanced stage of design and drawings show this to wrap around the South and East edges of Heath & Reach, and finally linking directly with the ongoing Clipstone Park development.

This new development could theoretically produce an additional electorate of some 5,800 in number that will eventually swamp the existing village electorate by a proportion of six to one. Given the contrast of housing design, layout and density, this development will inevitably have a detrimental effect on community cohesion given these new residents will have more affinity with the adjacent Clipstone Park development than existing villagers.

Should the Checkley Wood development come forward within the next five years then there would be a legitimate reason for similar arguments to made for including the village and development within the parish of Leighton-Linslade given that there will be every likelihood that its residents will automatically look toward Leighton Buzzard for its goods and services thus exacerbating the effect already being experienced from the Clipstone Park on community cohesion.

b). Effective and Convenient Governance

In previous Community Governance Reviews, the Principal Authority has stated that it 'wants to ensure that parish governance in our area continues to be robust, representative, and enabled to meet the challenges that lie before it'.

The community of Heath & Reach is situated immediately adjacent to the Leighton-Linslade parish boundary and forms the largest parish within the current District Ward bearing the same name that returns one representative to that Authority. The other parishes coterminous with Heath & Reach in this Ward are Chalgrave, Hockliffe, Stanbridge, Tilsworth and Eggington (Village Ward)

The parish of Heath & Reach has an allocation of nine councillors, but since the creation of the Principal Authority there has not been a contested election due to there being insufficient candidates. As a consequence, candidates have been elected without contest, the balance being made up from subsequent co-options.

As stated previously, the proposed development of Checkley Wood has the potential of swamping the existing community by a factor of six to one and with the additional allocation of parish councillors to represent the new community this will inevitably create an unwelcome imbalance where decision making for the existing community will be dominated by the new residents particularly given their record on standing candidates. As a result, community cohesion will be adversely effected.

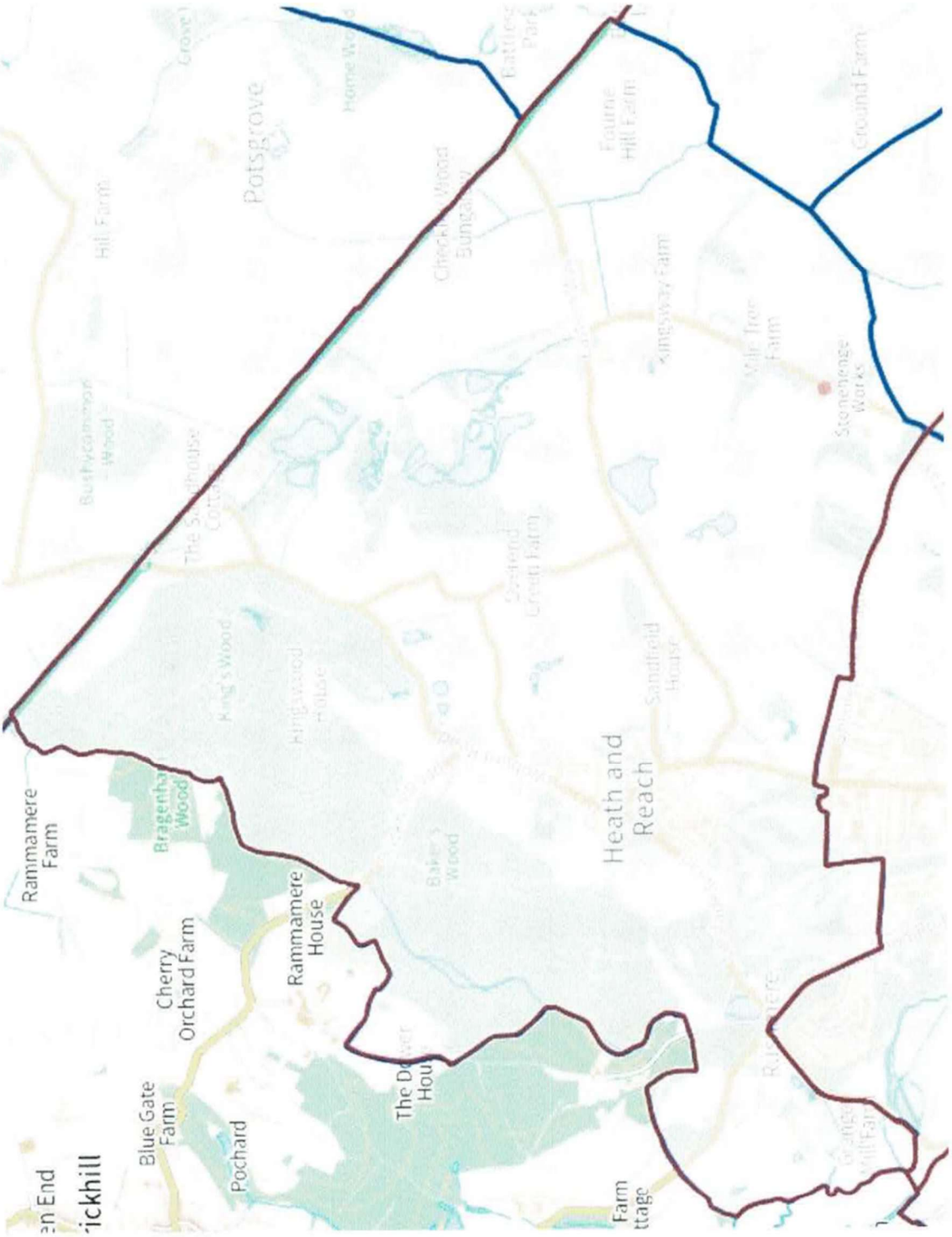
NOTE: We are not advocating a change in the parish boundary at this time but merely flagging up the potential problems that can be foreseen in the future should the Principal Authority delay decision making on governance for this growing community as they did for the Clipstone Park development. We are of the strong opinion that decisions on community governance should be taken immediately following approval of a planning application so that future residents will have certainty as to which community they are joining.

RECOMMENDATION #2

We request that Central Bedfordshire Council take the early opportunity to review the existing community governance of Heath & Reach parish given the potential early commencement of the proposed Checkley Wood development and it's wider implications on community cohesion and effective governance on the existing village community and the commercial centre of Leighton Buzzard. (Refer to Appendix B)

APPENDIX B

HEATH & REACH
PARISH



Parliamentary Area Boundary Review

(3) Proposal for change to the existing Parliamentary boundary to the West of Linslade in the parish of Leighton-Linslade to incorporate the enclosed land (as shown hatched on the drawing in Appendix C) that currently lies within the jurisdiction of Buckinghamshire County Council.

Submitted by Independent CBC and Town Cllrs Russ Goodchild and Steve Owen jointly with Labour Town Cllrs Jane Gibson, Pat Carberry, Mike Bishop and Peter McMorrow

Following the completion of the Linslade West bypass in 2007, the land encapsulated between the new road and existing County boundary has been the target of various speculative planning applications for residential developments to improve housing provision within the Aylesbury Vale area of Buckinghamshire.

The parish of Leighton-Linslade has fought off these unwanted applications with considerable public support on the basis that should any such development be allowed then the new residents would not have access to a commercial centre within a distance of twelve miles in their county of Buckinghamshire, but instead would look toward the Bedfordshire town of Leighton Buzzard for its goods and services without contributing to the provision or maintenance of said services.

Until such time as the boundary is extended to the A4146, the hinterland between the existing and proposed boundaries will remain vulnerable to planning applications outside the control of the relevant Bedfordshire authorities and this proposal seeks to bring and end to the stream of unwanted development applications and obviate the potential future burden on Leighton-Linslade council tax payers on servicing a new community outwith their parish boundary.

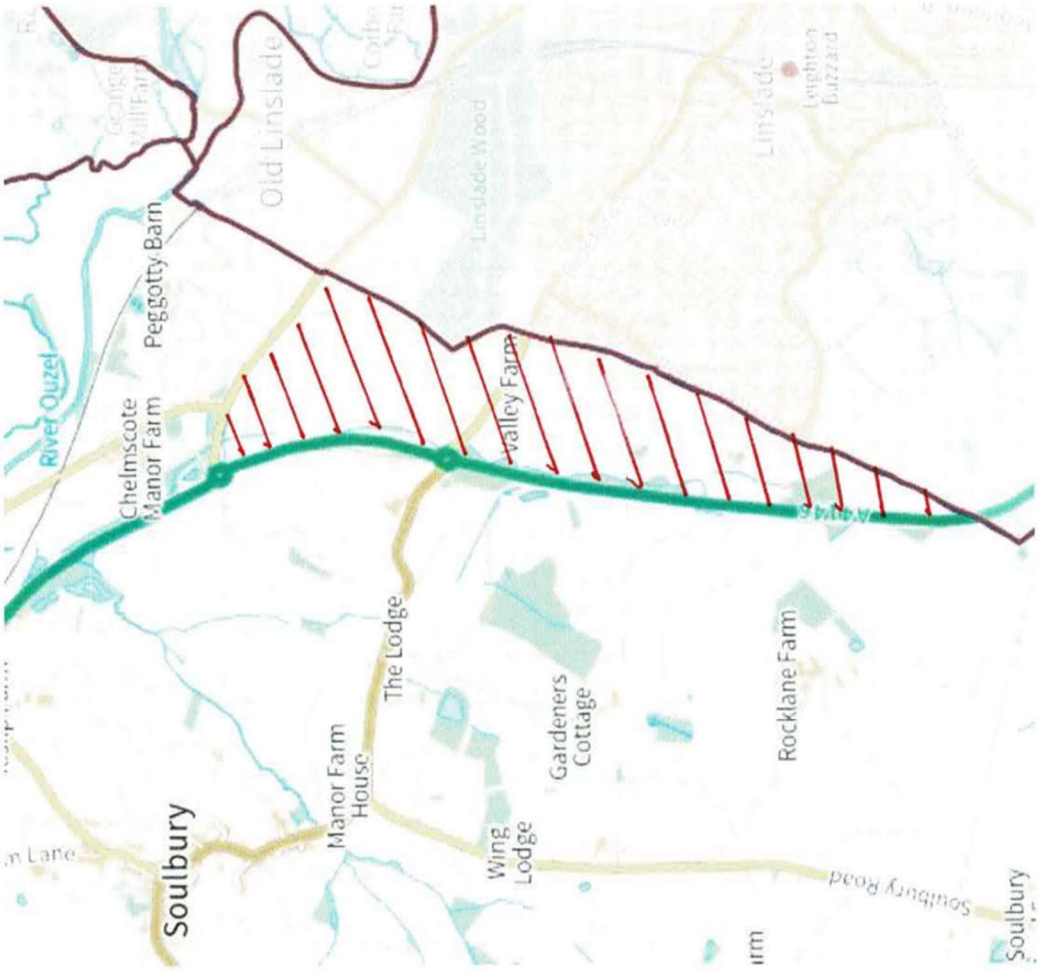
In terms of the resultant shift in electoral numbers and council tax, we understand that only one property exists within the effected transfer area and that is Valley Farm.

RECOMMENDATION #3

This Council wishes Central Bedfordshire Council as the Principal Authority to instigate the formal PABR process, including discussions with Buckinghamshire County Council, to bring about the proposed re-alignment of that part of the Parliamentary/County boundary around Western Linslade extended out to the natural boundary of the A4146 Linslade West bypass, and the transfer of land/property within that prescribed area as shown hatched on the drawing included in Appendix C.

APPENDIX C

RE-ALIGNMENT OF BOUNDARY – WEST LINSLADE



4. Biggleswade Town Council

We received the following letter regarding the consultation from Biggleswade Town Council.

Community Governance Review Submission

August 2025

Notification

Central Bedfordshire Council notified the Town Council of its intention to conduct a Community Governance Review (CGR) for the whole of the council area starting on the 30th June 2025 and with submissions to be received by the 23rd August 2025.

CBC specified that the review would consider:

- the creation, merger, alteration or abolition of parishes;
- the naming of parishes and the style of any new or revised parish;
- electoral arrangements for existing parishes including council size, the number of councillors to be elected to the council, parish warding, and
- grouping parishes under a new common parish council with any of their surrounding areas.

Structure to Submission in Response

1. Process
2. Timing
3. Political Perspective
4. Discussions with Neighbouring Parishes
5. Proposals for Change
6. Consultation with Residents
7. Future Partnership Working
8. Conclusion

1. Process

Biggleswade Town Council has followed the process that was recommended:

- checked the existing Parish Boundary – see Appendix A;
- engaged with our residents;
- engaged with neighbouring parishes, and
- been conscious of our legal authority when suggesting a reason for change.

2. Timing

Elected Members of the Town Council have expressed concern in regard to the timing of the review and in particular its inter-connectivity with the Local Plan and Call for Sites. The Call for Sites has advanced many sites in and around Biggleswade and, depending on which sites go forward, this could have a significant bearing on sensible future governance for our town and surrounding parishes. Please refer to Appendix B which shows sites already with

planning permission; Holme Farm, allocated in the current Local Plan; and the sites in blue put forward in the Call for Sites.

The CBC timeline below shows a two-stage process where initial decisions are put to further consultation. However Stage 3 begins in November and the results of the assessment of sites put forward in the Call for Sites is not scheduled to be available before early 2026. To enable an understanding of the likely development to be put forward in the revised Local Plan and its impact, the second consultation should be when the assessment of sites put forward has been concluded and likely development known. Perhaps Stage 3 timing could be re-considered?

CBC Timeline:

Dates	Review Stage	Timescales	Activity
March – April 2025	Preparation	2 months	Invite parishes to submit proposals for change. Desk research and information gathering. local briefings and meetings. Terms of Reference for the review are prepared
26 June 2025	Approval		General Purposes Committee approves commencement of CGR and Terms of Reference
30 June 2025	Commencement		Terms of Reference published; Council notifies stakeholders
30 June 2025 – 23 August 2025	Stage One	8 weeks	Initial submissions invited in response to consultation document
26 August 2025– 27 September 2025	Stage Two	5 weeks	Consider submissions received and prepare draft recommendations
23 October 2025			General Purposes Committee
17 November – 8 February 2026	Stage Three	12 weeks	Publish draft recommendations for further consultation with stakeholders and residents
9 February – 15 March 2026	Stage Four		Consider submissions received and prepare final recommendations
April 2026*	Conclusion		General Purposes Committee Final recommendations are approved by GP Committee and recommended to Council
14 May 2026*	Resolution		Council resolves to make a Reorganisation Order
October/November 2026	Implementation		Effective date of Order Effective date of any changes to parish/town boundaries and electoral arrangements
6 May 2027			Parish Elections

* Date of meeting to be confirmed

Whilst the Community Governance Review should not be delayed further, it is worth noting that the Government is currently carrying out a wider review of local government. This may result in Central Bedfordshire being joined with other principal authorities under a directly elected mayor. It is not clear if and how the role of town and parish councils might change under any new regime and therefore what boundaries may be pertinent.

3. Political Perspective

"Looking to the future, we want to continue to deliver excellent services while trying to reduce reliance on our local council tax." said Cllr Madeline Russell, Chairman of the Governance Working Group.

"This review enables us to reflect on the breadth and character of the community of Biggleswade; how to better serve residents and how to ensure the right level of representation."

4. Discussions with Neighbouring Parishes

The Town Council met with elected representatives of Northill Parish Council, Dunton Parish Council, Sutton Parish Council and Edworth Parish Meeting to discuss potential options for change.

Their Members were encouraged to then discuss these proposals at Council and to share with Biggleswade Town Council any respective resolutions.

Northill Parish Council

Members of Northill Parish Council did not see the need for a boundary change. They had had no complaints from residents and the boundary should remain as it is. They agreed to offer Biggleswade Town Council the opportunity to bid for Public Realm work when they next tender. They wish to continue to work in partnership as appropriate.

Northill official response:

"Following discussion at our most recent council meeting, members agreed that we are firmly in favour of maintaining our current parish boundary, with the River Ivel remaining the defining border—rather than any realignment to the A1. We would also like to highlight that Northill Parish Council is an active and fully functioning council, comprising 12 proactive councillors, with no difficulty in filling vacancies when they arise. In summary, the Council is operating effectively, collaboratively, and in the best interests of the parish community. We are content with the current arrangements and do not support any changes to our existing governance or boundaries."

Dunton Parish Council

Members had not considered the Governance Review. They were concerned about electricity supply because the village already experiences power cuts. They intend to oppose the development referred to in the Call for Sites as 136407.

Dunton official response:

"Dunton Parish Council thank you for inviting them to the informal meeting at your office. Members of Dunton Parish Council have now had time to discuss and hve decided they will not be submitting anything to CBC."

Sutton Parish Council

The Council is likely to oppose two sites proposed in the Call for Sites, sites 136407 and 136620, and therefore think that any discussion of boundaries is premature.

Sutton official response:

"Sutton Parish Council has responded to the Review to say that they do not want, at the present time, any changes to its parish boundary but may want to revisit this if the Call for Sites exercise determines development should take place on Sutton parish land."

Edworth Parish Meeting

Edworth Parish Meeting were content for the boundary to be Dunton Road from the Edworth Turn on the A1. They explained that the village looks towards Hinxworth and Ashwell for services, not Biggleswade.

They do not have the capacity or expertise to engage with CBC about planning issues.

They would appreciate regular contact with Biggleswade Town Council and to work together on planning if the commercial site goes forward.

Edworth official response:

"Members of Edworth Parish Meeting are supportive of the Biggleswade boundary being extended along Dunton Road to the Edworth Turn on the A1. No formal submission has been made by the Parish Meeting in response to the Governance Review."

5. Proposals for Change

Biggleswade Town Council proposes that the boundaries with both Northill and Edworth be reviewed.

Northill Parish

There is currently an area of residential, commercial & farmland between the River Ivel and the A1 from Hill Lane north to the boundary of Sandy Parish that sits within Northill Parish. It contains Sainsbury's supermarket, the Tidy Tip and a small number of flats and houses. Biggleswade Town Council proposes that the boundary should be changed from the river to the A1, as far as the Sandy boundary. Please refer to Appendix C.

The general public think that this area is in Biggleswade. They refer to Biggleswade Sainsbury's and Central Bedfordshire Council, on its website, refers to the Biggleswade Household Recycling Centre. The small number of residential properties adjoin the river and have easy access to all Biggleswade's facilities. They are within a ten-minute walk of the town centre, closer than the majority of the housing to the east of the town, and yet make no financial contribution to the amenities available.

The Town Council asks for the boundary change to go ahead whilst noting that Northill Parish Council disagrees with the change.

Edworth Parish

Biggleswade Town Council proposes that Dunton Road from the Edworth turn from the A1 makes a more natural boundary than the existing boundary, even more so if the land to the north of Dunton Road is approved, as requested, for inclusion as commercial development in the revised Local Plan. The land in question is currently solely farmland and, as above, Edworth Parish Meeting are content to see this change. The Town Council will work with Edworth should development be proposed to ensure that the Parish Meeting's views are represented. Please refer to Appendix C.

Dunton and Sutton Parishes

Whilst respecting that both parishes wish to oppose the inclusion of Site 136407 in the revised Local Plan before considering any boundary changes, Biggleswade Town Council proposes that, if development takes place, the whole of the site, including parts of Dunton and Sutton parishes, should be within Biggleswade Parish. This is in line with the Government's view that neighbouring houses should not be in different parishes. The land is currently farmland with only farm properties, no other housing.

There may also be an issue with Site 136620, which is wholely within Sutton parish but adjoins the site within Biggleswade which already has outline planning permission for 1,500 houses.

6. Consultation with Residents

The Council held a public meeting at the Orchard Community Centre on 26th June. The feedback was mainly positive but with some feeling that change may be premature and should perhaps wait until any development occurs.

The Council also launched an online survey to capture residents' views and the following responses were received.

Question 1: Would you broadly be in favour of adjusting the municipal boundary of Biggleswade Town Council to more obviously recognise local natural geography e.g. the A1?

Yes: 20 (63%) No: 12 (38%)

Question 2: Would you broadly be in favour of adjusting the municipal boundary of Biggleswade Town Council to more obviously recognise recent residential and/or commercial development?

Yes: 21 (66%) No: 11 (34%)

Question 3: Would you broadly be in favour of adjusting the municipal boundary of Biggleswade Town Council to more obviously recognise future residential and/or commercial development. in part informed by the CBC (Central Bedfordshire Council) call for sites?

Yes: 18 (58%) No : 13 (42%)

7. Future Partnership Working

In line with the expansion and needs of the town, Biggleswade Town Council's capacity, skills and competency has grown over the last five years. This potentially allows the Council to offer the benefits of economies of scale to other local Councils in the spirit of partnership.

As a consequence of our commissioning and procurement process the Council has developed effective and mature partnerships with a range of external agencies, notably in personnel management, payroll, car parking, public conveniences, football pitch maintenance and bowls pitch maintenance.

These partnerships could be extended to include other neighbouring Councils using the 'cost-plus' model (the pricing mechanism where a contractor is paid for the actual costs of providing the service, plus a pre-agreed fee or mark-up). This has the opportunity to reduce their unit costs and impact positively upon the quality of service delivery, giving better value for money. It would also enhance Biggleswade Town Council's income generation opportunities, reducing reliance upon the precept.

The informal engagement referred to above was a positive experience that has opened up opportunities for future partnership working, sharing competencies and expertise, in the way that the Town Council is already working with Northill Parish Council on an active travel issue. Where appropriate, it was agreed that Biggleswade Town Council would be invited to tender for services and also that other opportunities for co-operation would be explored in future meetings with those parishes to discuss items of mutual interest.

8. Conclusion

Biggleswade Town Council has been grateful for the opportunity to consider the issues raised by the Community Governance Review.

The need to consult neighbouring parishes has been positive in establishing relationships and in indicating possible future collaboration on issues of joint interest.

The Town Council confirms its request for changes to the boundaries with Northill and Edworth as a priority.

The Council also confirms that it is likely that other boundary changes will be needed, with both Dunton and Sutton, when the Call for Sites assessments have taken place. If the sites quoted above go forward in the Local Plan process, they are effectively an extension of Biggleswade.

Supporting Appendices

Appendix A: Current Biggleswade parish boundary.

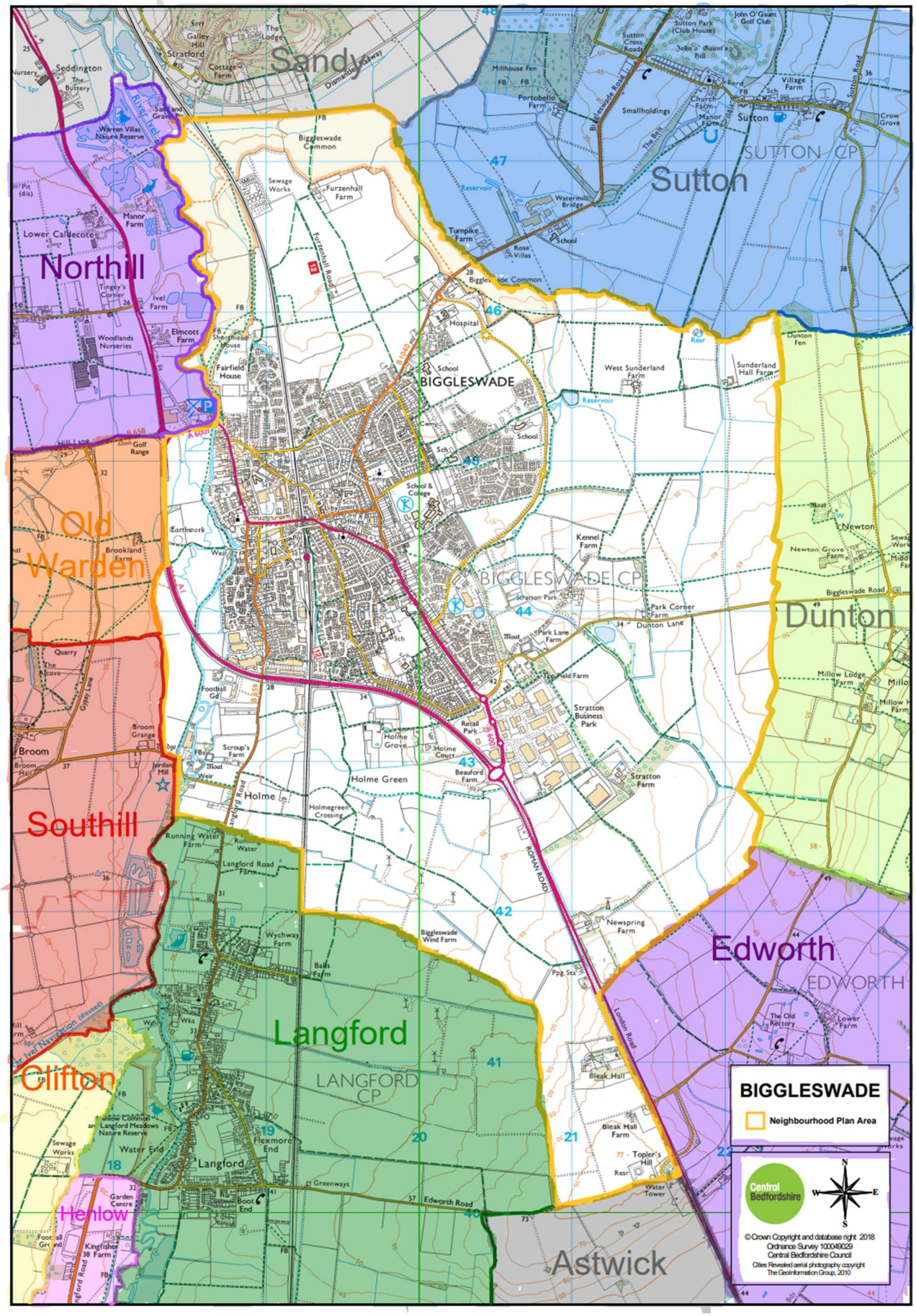
Appendix B: Call for Sites map, showing allocated/approved sites and potential sites.

Appendix C: Areas for inclusion within Biggleswade boundary.

(Please note that the base Ordnance Survey map used for the above is dated 2018 and does not show much of the completed housing development to the north-east of the town.)

Biggleswade Town Council, August 2025

Appendix A


Sandy
Sutton
SUTTON CP
Northill
BIGGLESWADE
BIGGLESWADE CP
Old Warden
Dunton
Southill
Edworth
EDWORTH
Langford
LANGFORD CP
Clifton
Henlow
Astwick
BIGGLESWADE
Neighbourhood Plan Area
Central Bedfordshire
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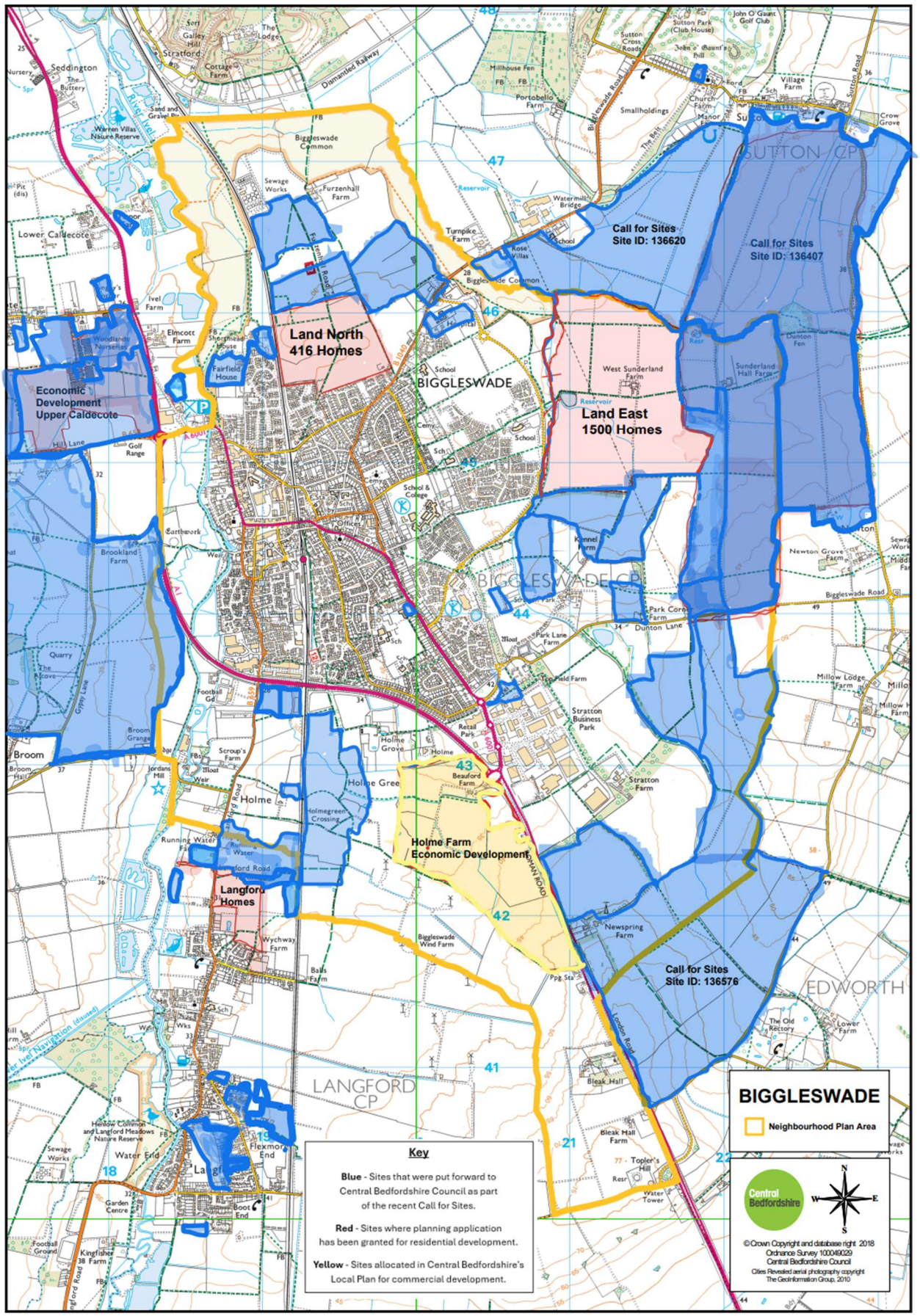
Ordnance Survey 100049029
Central Bedfordshire Council

Appendix B


Land North
416 Homes
Land East
1500 Homes
Call for Sites
Site ID: 136620
Call for Sites
Site ID: 136407
Call for Sites
Site ID: 136576
Economic
Development
Upper Caldecote
Holme Farm
Economic Development
Langford
Homes
BIGGLESWADE
SUTTON CP
BIGGLESWADE CP
LANGFORD
CP
EDWORTH
Key
Blue - Sites that were put forward to Central Bedfordshire Council as part of the recent Call for Sites.
Red - Sites where planning application has been granted for residential development.
Yellow - Sites allocated in Central Bedfordshire's Local Plan for commercial development.
BIGGLESWADE
Neighbourhood Plan Area
Central Bedfordshire
N
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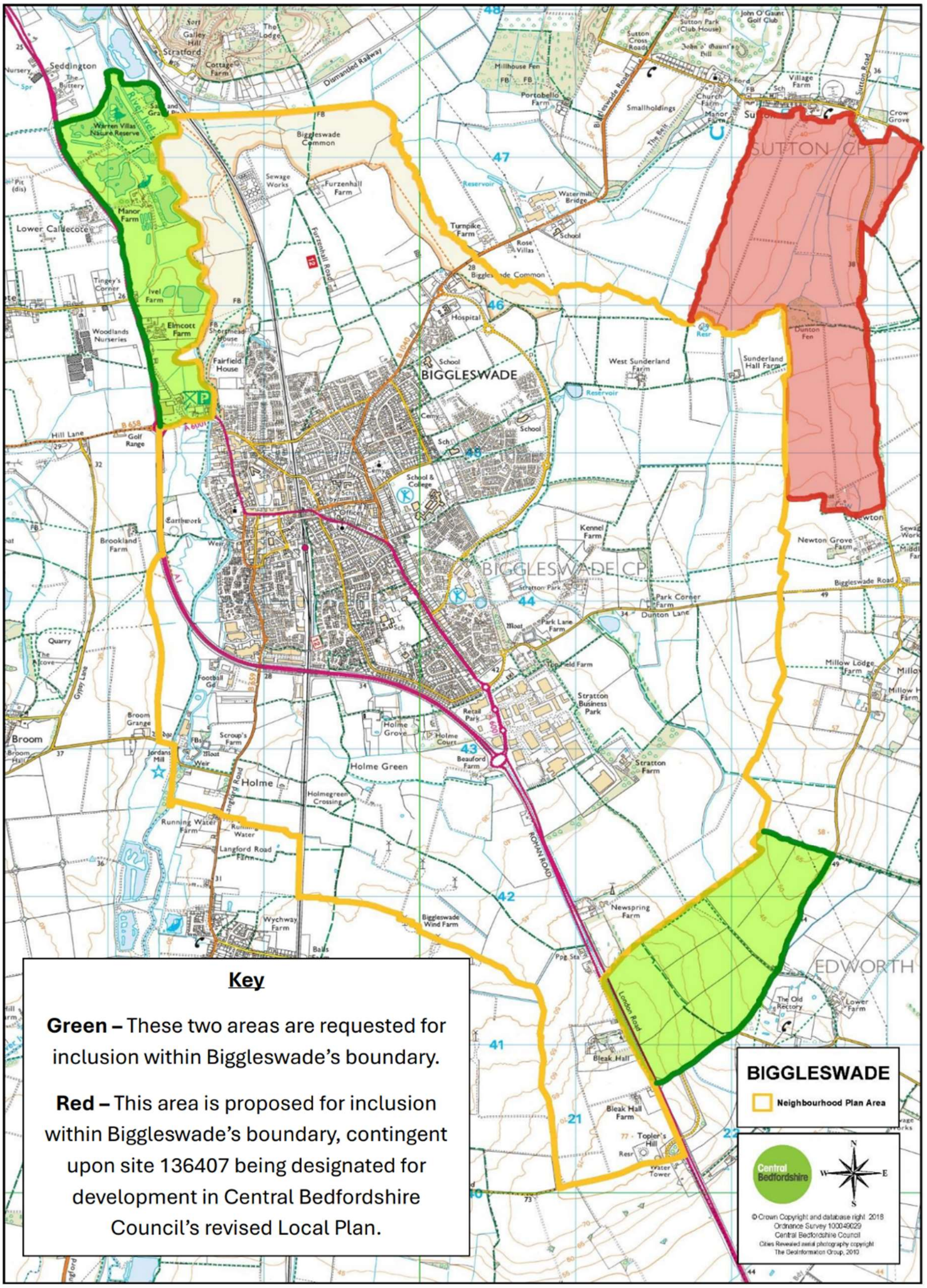
S
©Crown Copyright and database right 2018
Ordnance Survey 100049029
Central Bedfordshire Council
Cities Revealed aerial photography copyright
The GeoInformation Group, 2010

Appendix C


Key
Green – These two areas are requested for inclusion within Biggleswade's boundary.
Red – This area is proposed for inclusion within Biggleswade's boundary, contingent upon site 136407 being designated for development in Central Bedfordshire Council's revised Local Plan.
BIGGLESWADE
Neighbourhood Plan Area
Central Bedfordshire
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Ordnance Survey 100049029
Central Bedfordshire Council
Cities Revealed aerial photography copyright
The GeoInformation Group, 2010
BIGGLESWADE
BIGGLESWADE CP
SUTTON CP
EDWORTH

5. Eaton Bray Parish Council

We received the following letter and accompanying map regarding the consultation from Eaton Bray Parish Council.

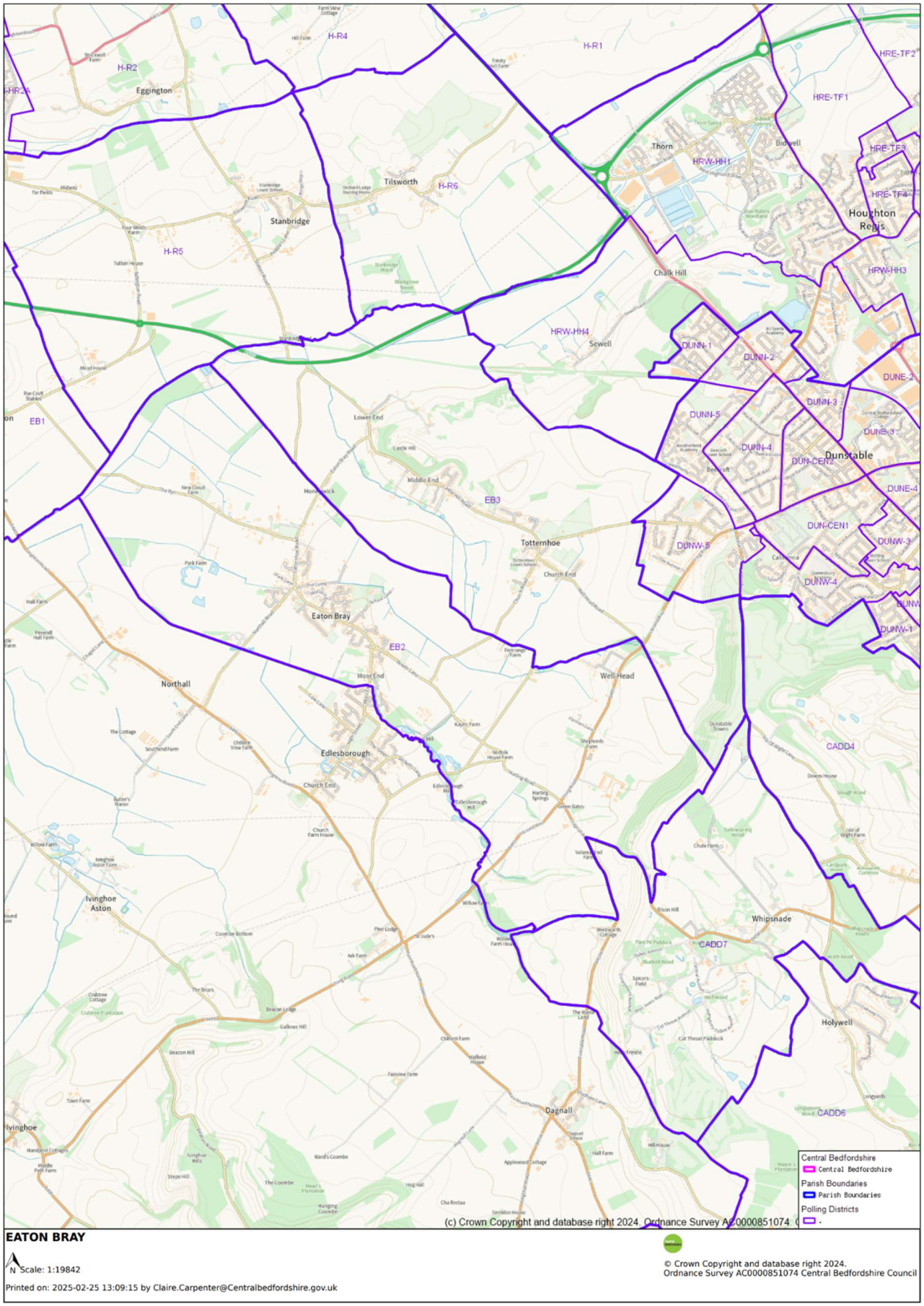
Re: Eaton Bray – Community Governance

Eaton Bray Parish Council are happy with the current situation.

We feel that the size, boundaries, number of Parish Councillors and financial arrangements all work very satisfactorily, so are not looking for any changes.

Kind Regards,

Eaton Bray Parish Council


H-R1
H-R2
H-R4
H-R5
H-R6
HRE-TF1
HRE-TF2
HRE-TF3
HRE-TF4
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HRW-HH3
HRW-HH4
DUNN-1
DUNN-2
DUNN-3
DUNN-4
DUNN-5
DUNE-2
DUNE-3
DUNE-4
DUN-CEN1
DUN-CEN2
DUNW-1
DUNW-3
DUNW-4
DUNW-5
EB1
EB2
EB3
CADD4
CADD6
CADD7
Eggington
Tilsworth
Stanbridge
Thorn
Houghton Regis
Chalk Hill
Sewell
Dunstable
Totternhoe
Eaton Bray
Northall
Edlesborough
Well Head
Whipsnade
Holywell
Dagnall
Ivinghoe Aston
Ivinghoe
Central Bedfordshire
Central Bedfordshire
Parish Boundaries
Parish Boundaries
Polling Districts
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EATON BRAY
N
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6. Stotfold Town Council

STOTFOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Stotfold Town Council, The Greenacre Centre, Valerian Way, Stotfold, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 4HG

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Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Shefford SG17 5TG

28 August 2025

Dear Sirs,

Proposal for Community Governance Review - Redrawing of Parish Boundaries

Purpose

Following Central Bedfordshire Council's (CBC) decision to launch a new Community Governance Review (CGR) and recognising significant local development and boundary anomalies since the 2017/18 review, Stotfold Town Council submits this proposal to reshape parish boundaries and governance arrangements in our area.

Background

A statutory CGR (Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007) allows the principal authority to review parish boundaries and electoral structures to ensure effective and convenient local governance, reflecting community identities.

Key Drivers for this Review:

- Population shifts: Urban growth merging former village areas and boundary anomalies.
- Equity: Fairer distribution of electorate and councillor workloads.
- Fiscal Sustainability: Ensuring all communities contribute appropriately to shared services.

Any recommended changes would take effect from May 2027.

Proposals

a) Merging Astwick Parish Meeting with Stotfold Town Council

- Dissolve Astwick Parish Meeting as an independent entity.
- Incorporate Astwick as a new ward of Stotfold Town Council, with dedicated representation (one ward councillor elected).

Justification & Benefits:

- Astwick residents gain access to enhanced amenities and professional administrative support.
- Strategic planning becomes more integrated, preventing fragmented development.
- Broader, fairer representation and pooled council resources bolster community projects, supported by the resources of Stotfold Town Council.

STOTFOLD TOWN COUNCIL

Stotfold Town Council, The Greenacre Centre, Valerian Way, Stotfold, Hitchin, Herts, SG5 4HG

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- Astwick is currently included in the area of designation for the Stotfold and Astwick Neighbourhood Plan

Risks & Mitigation:

- Acknowledge the potential loss of local identity and concerns over representation.
- Propose ring-fencing of a portion of the precept for ward-specific initiatives.
- Commit to robust community engagement to safeguard Astwick's voice.

Stotfold Town Council representatives met with Astwick Parish Meeting to discuss the proposals. The increase in the council tax was explained, along with the additional support that the Town Council could provide to residents with regards to planning and grounds maintenance. At their meeting on 27 August 2025, residents voted in favour of the proposal to become a ward of Stotfold by 9 votes with 1 abstention.

b) Redrawing the Arlesey Boundary to Follow A507

- Realign the boundary between Stotfold and Arlesey along the A507, a well-defined man-made feature as preferred by the Boundary Commission.
- Incorporate Etonbury School and Etonbury Woods within Stotfold.
- Note that the Arlesey Cross development remains outside the proposed new boundary.

Justification & Benefits:

- A clearer, logical boundary follows national guidance.
- Inclusion of key local amenities within Stotfold.
- Enables optimal use of S106 funding for improvements benefiting residents.

The Town Council met with representatives of Arlesey Town Council to discuss the proposals. Concerns were raised by Arlesey about loss of land however, the land in question is predominantly made up of Etonbury Woods, owned by CBC, with no potential housing development identified.

Financial Implications

- The inclusion of Astwick would increase Stotfold's council tax base with this portion of the precept being ring fenced for ward specific activities.
- S106 funds relating to Etonbury Woods would support local facility improvements.

Conclusion

This proposal supports equitable access to services, strengthens strategic governance, and ensures all communities contribute fairly. We would ask that CBC incorporate these recommendations into the CGR consultation and look forward to engaging constructively throughout the process.

Yours faithfully

Cllr Steve Buck Mayor, Stotfold Town Council

Central Bedfordshire in contact

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