

CGR 18

Parishes Affected

Pishill with Stonor, Watlington, Swyncombe

Matter to be considered

Amending the boundary of Pishill with Stonor parish to include all properties in Russell's Water

Impact on district and county council boundaries

None

Summary of parish council responses

Watlington parish council originally proposed moving one property on the edge of Russell's Water into Pishill with Stonor parish. It has subsequently written supporting the working group's proposal to move the whole of Russell's Water into Pishill with Stonor parish.

Swyncombe parish council sees the merit of including all of the properties in Russell's Water in a single parish but consider that this should be Swyncombe rather than Pishill with Stonor. It states that it has consulted affected parishioners and those that have responded have indicated a preference to remain in Swyncombe parish.

Pishill with Stonor parish council supports the proposal to include the whole of Russell's Water in Pishill with Stonor parish.

Summary of other responses

One resident of Russell's Water (an ex-Swyncombe parish councillor) has written saying that if the whole of the settlement is to go into one parish that he would prefer that to be Swyncombe. He has also suggested that further thought be given to any new boundary to ensure it makes maximum sense on the ground

Recommendation

To move properties to the north and west side of Russell's Water, currently in Swyncombe and Watlington parishes, into Pishill with Stonor parish as shown on the attached map

Justification

The working group considered Watlington parish council's proposal (which it supported) and noted that Russell's Water is split between three parishes. It also noted that the boundary between Swyncombe and Pishill with Stonor parishes runs in a fairly haphazard way through the settlement meaning that people find themselves in different parishes from their neighbours.

The working group considers that the interests and identities of the community of Russell's Water and their effective and convenient representation is served best by it being in a single parish. It proposes moving the whole of Russell's Water into Pishill with Stonor parish as by far the majority of the properties in Russell's Water lie in this parish. It recognises, however, that if the majority of local residents respond to the consultation with a preference to go into Swyncombe that this will carry significant weight when it formulates final recommendations.