

## **CGR 27**

### **Parishes Affected**

Watlington, Pyrton

### **Matter to be considered**

Amending the boundary of Watlington parish to include the playing field, currently in Pyrton parish

### **Impact on district and county council boundaries**

None

### **Summary of parish council responses**

Watlington parish council put this proposal forward. It leases the playing field, in Pyrton parish, which Watlington Cricket Club and Watlington Town Football Club use. The pavilion for the sports field is in Watlington parish and the parish council argues that some degree of rationalisation would seem logical. It states, "Watlington PC has a long lease on the field and has significant investment of effort and money related to the field remaining available as a sports field for a long period. We believe this would be best achieved by the proposed transfer, which would allow the field to be included within the Watlington Neighbourhood Plan as a recreational space that should be retained for the community."

Pyrton parish council objects to the proposal. It states, "we do not want the Sports Field leased by Watlington Parish Council from Beechwood Estates Company Ltd, to be moved from Pyrton into Watlington Parish particularly as the existing parish boundaries have a clear and physical delineation with an ancient and deep ditch." It goes to point out that the landowner has also written objecting to the proposal.

### **Summary of other responses**

We have received a number of letters from Pyrton residents objecting to this proposal. Most are generic and also object to the change of the parish boundary at Christmas Common. The principle ground for objection is that the playing field abuts brownfield land (in Pyrton parish) and that moving the boundary makes development of this land more likely.

### **Recommendation**

To move Watlington playing field from Pyrton parish into Watlington parish

## **Justification**

It makes sense for the playing field, which the parish council leases and maintains, to be within Watlington parish. At the moment the parish boundary separates the playing field from the pavilion that serves it and other recreation facilities within Watlington. The working group considers that the interests of the residents of Watlington are best served by the main recreation ground for the village being within the parish.