

# Minutes



Listening Learning Leading

OF A MEETING OF THE

## **Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee**

HELD AT 6.30 PM ON MONDAY 6 MARCH 2017

MEETING ROOM 1, 135 EASTERN AVENUE, MILTON PARK

### **Present**

David Nimmo-Smith (Chairman), Charles Bailey, Anthony Dearlove, Paul Harrison and Bill Service.

### **Officers**

Lesley Blue, Steven Corrigan and Matthew Gaskin.

### **20 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Margaret Davies.

### **21 Minutes**

**RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2016 as a correct record and agree that the Chairman signs them as such.

### **22 Declarations of interest**

None.

### **23 Urgent business and chairman's announcements**

None.

### **24 Public participation**

No members of the public had registered to speak.

### **25 Community Governance Review - review of the size of Cholsey Parish Council**

The committee considered the report of the head of legal and democratic services on whether to agree to undertake a second stage consultation proposing no change to the current number of parish councillors for Cholsey Parish Council.

The committee had agreed at its meeting on 20 October 2016 to undertake a community governance review of Cholsey Parish Council. This was in response to a request from the parish council to reduce the number of parish councillors from 13 to 12. This was due to a reduction in the electorate number as a result of Winterbrook transferring from Cholsey to Wallingford. Only one response was received from Cholsey Parish Council in response to the initial consultation. In light of housing growth in the village and slight population growth, the parish council no longer supported a reduction in the number of parish councillors.

The committee considered and supported the officer's recommendation that a second stage consultation be carried out on retaining the number of parish councillors for Cholsey Parish Council at 13.

**RESOLVED:** to

1. agree to undertake a second stage consultation proposing no change to the current number of parish councillors for Cholsey Parish Council;
2. to authorise the head of legal and democratic services to undertake the consultation.

## **26 Community Governance Review - request from Kidmore End Parish Council**

The committee considered a request from Kidmore End Parish Council to reduce its parish councillors from 12 to 10.

Kidmore End Parish Council had written to the council outlining the rarity of the maximum of 12 councillors being in place at any one time. The average number of councillors each month since May 2011 is 10.4. Based on this, the parish council had put forward a request to reduce the maximum number of parish councillors to 10.

The officer confirmed that the population of Kidmore End was small and that there were frequently vacancies for parish councillors.

The committee considered the report and recommended that a community governance review (CGR) of Kidmore End Parish Council be undertaken.

**RESOLVED:** to

1. undertake a community governance review of Kidmore End Parish Council;
2. authorise the head of legal and democratic services to draft and publish the terms of reference for the review.

The meeting closed at 6.35 pm

Chairman

Date