

# Public Document Pack

## COUNCIL

A meeting of Council will be held at Council Chamber, Fenland Hall, County Road, March on THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2022 at 4.00 PM and I request you to attend accordingly for transaction of the following business:

- 1 To receive apologies for absence.
- 2 To elect a Chairman for the period to the next Annual Meeting and to resolve that an allowance of £4,116 plus travelling expenses be paid to the person elected.
- 3 To elect a Vice-Chairman for the period to the next Annual Meeting and to resolve that an allowance of £1,000 plus travelling expenses be paid to the person elected.
- 4 Previous Minutes (Pages 5 - 18)  
  
To confirm and sign the minutes of 24 February 2022.
- 5 To receive any announcements from the Chairman of the Council and/or the Head of Paid Service.
- 6 Meetings of the Council 2022/23  
  
To determine that:

1. The Annual Meeting of the Council in 2023 be held on:

Monday 22 May 2023

2. The ordinary meetings of the Council in 2022/23 to be held as follows:

Monday 11 July 2022

Monday 3 October 2022

Monday 12 December 2022

Monday 20 February 2023

- 7 To receive members' declaration of any interests under the Local Code of Conduct or any interest under the Code of Conduct on Planning Matters in respect of any item to be discussed at the meeting.
- 8 To receive questions from, and provide answers to, councillors in relation to matters which, in the opinion of the Chairman, accord with the provisions of Procedure Rules 8.4 and 8.6.
- 9 To ask questions of Cabinet members with portfolio holder responsibilities, in accordance with Procedure Rules 8.1 and 8.2
- 10 Political Proportionality Report (Pages 19 - 36)

The purpose of this Report is to agree the committee structure and terms of reference for the forthcoming municipal year as well as confirming the allocation of seats to those committees and also to outside bodies in accordance with political proportionality rules and to receive notification of the appointments to them.

- 11 CPCA Appointments (inc Employment Committee) (Pages 37 - 44)

To request the Council to make appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2022/23.

- 12 Licensing Report - Taxi Tariff (Pages 45 - 52)

To adopt the proposed increase of the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Table of Fares.

- 13 FDC Response to LGBCE on Draft Ward Proposals (Pages 53 - 106)

For Members to consider and agree the formal Council consultation submission in relation to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Electoral Review of Fenland District Council. This report forms the Council's response to the final part of the electoral review process regarding the proposed future warding arrangements, including future ward boundaries, number of elected representatives per ward and future ward names.

### **CONFIDENTIAL - ITEMS COMPRISING EXEMPT INFORMATION**

To exclude the public (including the press) from a meeting of a committee it is necessary for the following proposition to be moved and adopted: "that the public be excluded from the meeting for Items which involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) as indicated."

- 14 Anglia Revenues Partnership - S.113 Agreement (confidential) (Pages 107 - 112)

To recommend Council approve the negotiation and entry into a Section 113 agreement.

Fenland Hall  
March

  
Chief Executive

Wednesday, 4 May 2022

**NOTE** The Council may, by resolution, as exemplified below, exclude the public from a meeting during the consideration of any item of business whenever it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that, if members of the public were present, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information as defined in Section 100 I of the Local Government Act, 1972

"Resolved that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for Item No./Minute No. on the grounds that the item involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act"

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## COUNCIL



**THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2022 - 4.00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor A Miscandlon (Chairman), Councillor I Benney, Councillor Mrs S Bligh, Councillor C Boden, Councillor J Clark, Councillor S Clark, Councillor M Cornwell, Councillor S Count, Councillor Mrs M Davis, Councillor D Divine, Councillor Mrs J French, Councillor K French, Councillor A Hay, Councillor Miss S Hoy, Councillor M Humphrey, Councillor Mrs D Laws, Councillor A Lynn, Councillor C Marks, Councillor D Mason, Councillor Mrs K Mayor, Councillor N Meekins, Councillor J Mockett, Councillor P Murphy, Councillor D Patrick, Councillor M Purser, Councillor W Sutton, Councillor M Tanfield, Councillor S Tierney, Councillor S Wallwork, Councillor R Wicks, Councillor S Wilkes and Councillor F Yeulett

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor R Skoulding (Vice-Chairman), Councillor G Booth, Councillor D Connor, Councillor A Maul, Councillor W Rackley, Councillor C Seaton and Councillor D Topgood

### **C34/21**      **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of 8 December 2021 were confirmed and signed.

### **C35/21**      **CIVIC ENGAGEMENTS UPDATE.**

Councillor Miscandlon drew member's attention to the civic activities undertaken by himself in the weeks preceding Full Council.

### **C36/21**      **TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL AND/OR THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE.**

Councillor Meekins was appointed Vice-Chairman for the meeting in the absence of Councillor Skoulding.

Councillor Miscandlon advised members that he will be holding his Civic Reception at the Eastrea Community Hall on Friday 18 March at 6.30pm and looked forward to welcoming members there on the evening.

He advised members that as part of the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations, he will be taking part in the Queens Green Canopy initiative and planting a tree in four of the District's secondary schools in each of the market towns. He added that he will be joined by staff and pupils at each of the schools to mark the special event.

### **C37/21**      **TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS FROM, AND PROVIDE ANSWERS TO, COUNCILLORS IN RELATION TO MATTERS WHICH, IN THE OPINION OF THE CHAIRMAN, ACCORD WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PROCEDURE RULES 8.4 AND 8.6.**

Councillor Miscandlon stated that no questions had been submitted under Procedure Rule 8.6 and asked if there were any questions under Procedure Rule. 8.4 from Councillor Cornwell as Leader of the Opposition.

Councillor Cornwell stated that over the past few Council meetings he has raised a number of questions with regards to sustainable environmental issues and the responses he has received

have been mixed. He added that now the recovery and growth stage following the pandemic has been reached, many members consider that it is important that sustainable, environmental and climate change issues are considered as part of that direction. He stated that he has been particularly interested in the Cambridgeshire County Council's approach, including the publication of their Climate Change and Environment Strategy which he has found to be quite interesting. Councillor Cornwell stated that, in his opinion, the Council should accept and understand its community responsibility, both for the present and the future and he asked Councillor Boden to advise whether a strategy is being considered for the Fenland District including the associated timescales and if a strategy is not being considered he would like to know the reasons why. He expressed the view that consideration should be given for it to be added to the Council's Business Plan and as there is already a nominated portfolio holder for the subject it could be easily adopted in the portfolio workload.

Councillor Boden stated that, in his opinion, no one would advocate unsustainability and he apologised that Councillor Cornwell did not feel that his previous responses were satisfactory. He stated that it is important that the Council has the opportunity to debate and decide upon policies in this general area and added that Councillor Cornwell is correct that there is a Portfolio Holder for this particular subject matter, who is Councillor Tierney. Councillor Boden stated that he has discussed the subject with Councillor Tierney with a view of bringing something forward to a Full Council meeting in the future.

**C38/21**      **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM AND ASK QUESTIONS OF CABINET MEMBERS WITH PORTFOLIO HOLDER RESPONSIBILITIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULES 8.1 AND 8.2.**

Members asked questions of Portfolio Holders in accordance with Procedure Rules 8.1 and 8.2 as follows:

- Councillor Mrs Mayor stated that she noted from the report that numerous tree works have been competed across the district with a programme of new tree planting continuing during the Winter and questioned why new trees are being planted when existing trees that require works are not being maintained, which is necessary to allow proper growth and to ensure that trees remain safe. She queried why so many trees have been planted in Whittlesey Cemetery, when the existing trees that are already on site require works, and it is her understanding that the contractors do not have anybody qualified to undertake the tree works and in instances where urgent works are required the Council has to employ another contractor. Councillor Mrs Mayor stated that she has repeatedly asked for an oak tree which is sited in Queen Street in Whittlesey to be pruned, specifically prior to Remembrance Day in 2020 and 2021 and although she had been advised that the works had been undertaken, in her opinion, the tree had only received a light trim which ensured that the Union Flag at the site of the war memorial was able to fly freely. She explained that she has been advised that for a tree specialist to be able to undertake works to the tree a road closure is required and that although the road was closed in order to facilitate an event in December, the tree was unfortunately damaged as it was struck by a bus who inadvertently drove into the road and she stated that works to the tree have still not been undertaken as of the end of February 2022. Councillor Mrs Mayor questioned why so many trees have been planted in Whittlesey Cemetery specifically in the proximity of the very old graves, where the tree roots could cause issues to the plots and the remains contained within the plots. Councillor Murphy responded that when specialised tree works are required the Council's Parks and Green Spaces contractor, Tivoli, request that a specialist sub-contractor is called in to support them, with this being a cost effective arrangement that is working very well as the Council has not had a specialist tree contractor in place for over four years and the current approach is cost effective as a tree team consists of at least two specialist staff who would not be used all the time. He added that the Council undertakes tree work regularly to maintain the stock which consists of 3,500 trees, and he explained that a good example of this is the recent proactive works which were carried out at the Manor Field. Councillor

Murphy referred to the trees in Whittlesey Cemetery and stated that they are assessed informally on a regular basis by the Open Spaces Team. He added that any minor tree works can be undertaken by Tivoli, the Council's Parks and Green Spaces contractor and any works identified by the Council's Horticultural Officer has resulted previously in specialists being employed to deal with trees in high footfall areas and any necessary safety works which have been identified have been carried out. Councillor Murphy advised members that it is the intention of the Council to implement a tree safety assessment process which will include a formal safety assessment of trees and identify any safety works deemed as necessary. In relation to the tree in Queen Street that Councillor Mrs Mayor had highlighted, Councillor Murphy explained that the tree had been pruned to ensure that the Remembrance Day event and Christmas event arrangements went ahead without any tree issues but if any more comprehensive works are required then it can be arranged but it would be at an additional cost as it would necessitate a road closure and a tree team with specialist equipment to carry out the works. He stated that with regard to the volume of trees planted in Whittlesey Cemetery, it is not uncommon for trees to be planted within cemeteries and Yew trees are a traditional variety that are planted, with other significant species being planted for tree avenues, explaining that Fenland has many cemeteries and open spaces which can be used for reflection as well as the opportunity to enjoy nature. Councillor Murphy expressed the view that the three best cemeteries are Station Road in March and the two cemeteries in Chatteris, which all feature significant trees, with the trees that have been planted in Whittlesey will, over time, add additional character and enhance the biodiversity of the open space and encourage bird and insect populations and the trees have been planted in the manner so as not to interfere with historic plots.

- Councillor Miss French asked Councillor Boden if he could provide the details that has been paid out in respect of Covid Business Support grants? Councillor Boden responded that as of 22 February 2022 that total amount of money that the Council had paid out in respect of support grants and business grants was £36,419,607 with more than half of that being paid during the first lockdown. He explained that the funding payments are still ongoing for the final element of the additional restrictions grant and the Omicron grant and those funds will be paid by the end of March.
- Councillor Wicks asked Councillor Boden whether he will be considering appointing a member who has the empathy and drive to carry out the work required in promoting the military covenant for the Council? Councillor Boden stated that Councillor Tierney was appointed into that position over two years ago and that appointment remains.
- Councillor Count stated that in his role as a Cambridgeshire County Councillor there is an inexorable march towards congestion charging in the Cambridge City area and he asked Councillor Boden whether he had a view with regard to introducing congestion charging and road pricing in the Cambridge and Greater Cambridge area? Councillor Boden stated that it is a question that he fears will become very relevant in the near future and he feels that the concept that cars will be charged to enter the Cambridge City area will be problematic and discriminate against those Fenland residents who are low paid workers but who have no choice other than to use their cars to enter Cambridge City to get to their workplace. He expressed the opinion that it is a highly retrograde step for the suggestion of congestion charge to be considered to enter the city and other options should be investigated in the first instance. Councillor Boden expressed the view that he sees it as a regressive tax and he finds it astonishing that some individuals who claim to be progressive are advocating a tax which will mean that only the rich will be able to drive into Cambridge City, which he feels is wrong.
- Councillor Patrick referred to an area of open space in Petts Close in Wisbech where there are a number of trees and as a result there are a large number of leaves, which has been reported to officers and he has been advised that it is not policy to clear the leaves from open spaces and asked Councillor Murphy why this is the case? Councillor Murphy stated that leaf clearance does take place from town centre areas, but in parks and open spaces the leaves are left to mulch down as there are 3,500 trees within the District which would mean tonnes of leaves being collected and nowhere for them to be taken. Councillor Patrick

stated that he has spoken to the residents in Petts Close who have cleared the leaves in the past, placed them in the shrubbery where they have not mulched down and therefore he would like the area to be inspected by officers. Councillor Murphy agreed that the area could be looked at.

- Councillor Mrs Bligh stated that she is very pleased to hear that there is a new officer position being advertised which is due to be funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner Office and as she understands the role will link in with the Community Safety Partnership. As she represents a rural area, she asked Councillor Lynn how the Problem-Solving Coordinator Officer will act in the rural communities, who, in her opinion, already suffer from lower policing numbers? Councillor Lynn stated that the job description for that position is still to be determined and, therefore, once he has further detail, he will report back. Councillor Mrs Bligh stated that she would hope that when the job description is determined that the rural communities will be considered including liaison with the Parish Councils. She added that she is also aware of a £190,000 funding pot that the Police and Crime Commissioner is offering for communities alongside the new role, and she would hope that the Council takes full advantage of the funding opportunity and again considers the rural communities. Councillor Lynn advised that the pot of funding is for emergency response where an initial immediate impact is required. He added that officers are currently in discussion with the Police and Crime Commissioner office with regard to the finer detail for the funding and once that is made clearer, further information will be provided.
- Councillor Mrs Bligh stated that at the meeting of Full Council in December she had asked whether consideration could be given by the Council for the use of the 'What Three Words' app and she asked Councillor Mrs Laws whether there was an update on this. Councillor Mrs Laws stated that this is something that is still being considered and investigated.
- Councillor Sutton referred to Page 23 of the Portfolio Holder report where it mentions CELP2 in the performance indicators relating to the percentage of householders presenting to the Council as homeless and he questioned Councillor Hoy on the accuracy of the figures provided due to the fact that there is no detail with regard to the baseline or target numbers. Councillor Hoy stated that this is a new performance indicator, which is why there is no baseline or target. She added that it was changed because the old target was how many people presented to housing options and this detail did not prove to be a useful indicator and it was agreed that it would be more helpful to know how many people have received assistance that presented to housing options. Councillor Hoy stated that she agrees that it does appear to be confusing and that it does need to be looked at further.
- Councillor Sutton stated that he notes that within the transport report it provides detail of the Manea Station project and the progress being made, with previous reports always showing that Manea Parish Council were to assume responsibility of Manea Station, however, this report does not mention this and asked Councillor Boden why? Councillor Boden responded that Manea Parish Council have taken the decision not to take on the responsibility of managing the car park and an alternative solution is to be sought. Councillor Sutton stated that he has not seen any detail of the financing of the facility for the next five years in the Mid Term Financial Strategy and Councillor Boden explained that it is his understanding that the necessary finances for the management of the car park for the first few years have already been taken into account.
- Councillor Sutton stated that previously he has heard that when there are any land sales the local Councillor will be informed, and highlighted that there is some land surplus in Christchurch, and asked Councillor Benney why he has not been notified? Councillor Benney responded that he could not say for certainty that it has been agreed that Ward Members would be informed but he cannot see any reason why they should not be kept updated, and he will take steps to ensure that this happens going forward. He stated that he is aware of the piece of land that Councillor Sutton is referring to and that once he has a meeting with officers to discuss land sales he will advise Councillor Sutton of the details with regards to the method of sale of the piece of land in question.
- Councillor Sutton expressed the opinion that is very pleasing to see that the Boathouse Business Centre is fully occupied, but there does not appear to be any occupancy figures



against the South Fens Business Centre and asked Councillor Benney for transparency and for the figures to be provided. He stated that historically it was under performing and he questioned that if that is still the case should its usage now be reconsidered. Councillor Benney responded that he did not know why the figures had been omitted but is aware that one of the large units and one of the smaller units have been let. He stated that he is not aware of the current occupancy figures, but he can supply these and explained that officers have reviewed the way that the facility is marketed, which has proved to be successful. Councillor Benney expressed the view that with regards for an alternative use of South Fens Business Centre, it is an office space facility, however, he is willing to take suggestions from members as to how office space can be used in an alternative way. Councillor Sutton stated that consideration could be given to a conversion into possible residential usage or split into a business facility combined with residential usage, but he would be happy to discuss this with Councillor Benney at another time. Councillor Benney stated that it is just a clerical error as to why the figure is missing and he will obtain the figure and advise Councillor Sutton, but it is his recollection that the occupancy levels had increased. He added that, in his opinion, South Fens Business Centre is the wrong side of the bypass in order to convert the facility into residential use and to convert it would cause planning concerns as it is not situated in the best location for connectivity to the town of Chatteris.

- Councillor Sutton asked Councillor Boden to provide an update with regard to Vertical Waste Integration (VWI) and the withdrawal of charging for the brown bin waste collection, which he stated had been referred to previously. Councillor Boden responded that he has not distributed any literature himself where he has promised VWI and, therefore, he is not accountable for any progress on the subject. Councillor Sutton asked Councillor Mrs French if she had any comment to make as he was aware she had made reference to it on social media? Councillor Mrs French stated that the literature being referred to was circulated in the 2019 elections and was something that the Government was looking at to assist taxpayers, but to date nothing has happened further.
- Councillor Sutton stated that he notes from the HPT that there is a short coming of 62 dwellings a year and questioned Councillor Mrs Laws on whether over the 5-year term that will be achievable? Councillor Mrs Laws responded that she has every confidence this will be achieved, Fenland is open for business and the Council is receiving record numbers of planning applications and also build outs. She added that the only problem she can foresee is with developers struggling for materials. Councillor Sutton asked Councillor Mrs Laws for an update with regard to validation timescales? Councillor Mrs Laws responded that two new members of staff have joined the Technical Support Team and the timeframe has now reduced to just less than a three week period for validation.

#### **C39/21**      **FINAL BUSINESS PLAN 2022-23**

Members considered the Final Business Plan 2022-23 report presented by Councillor Boden.

Councillor Boden highlighted that the Overview and Scrutiny Panel requested that a change be made to the Promoting Health and Wellbeing for all priority and that change has been made. He added that they have also asked for a Task and Finish Group to look at Key Performance Indicators which has also been agreed.

Councillor Boden stated that specific reference has also been made with regard to meeting the net carbon zero target of the Government and also agreeing to support the Combined Authority in developing a people focussed climate action plan.

**Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Lynn and AGREED that the Business Plan 2022-2023 be approved.**

#### **C40/21**      **GENERAL FUND BUDGET ESTIMATES 2022/23 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) 2022/23 TO 2026/27; CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022 - 2025**

Members considered the General Fund Budget Estimates 2022/23 and the Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2022/23 to 2026/27; Capital Programme 2022-2025 report presented by Councillor Boden.

Members made comments, asked questions and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Cornwell stated that he supports the fact that Council Tax is not increased as, in his opinion, the Council has a duty to protect residents, with the pressures on domestic budgets being high, living costs continuing to rise and people have some hard decisions to make and anything that the Council can do to help ease the pressure on its residents is the right thing to do. He expressed his disappointment that the Statutory Bodies consider it acceptable to raise their demands such as the County Council raising their demands by 5%, Police and Crime Commissioner by over 4% and the Fire Authority by 2%. Councillor Cornwell stated that he takes issue with the fact that when he has reviewed the budget he has seen that an increase of 8% within the Council's budget for drainage board levies up to £1.72 million, which causes him concern and annoyance. He highlighted that within the report it states that drainage board levies will account for almost 22% of the Council Tax figure and, in his view, this cannot continue for very much longer. Councillor Cornwell stated that he understands the need for sustainable drainage, and he has raised the problem in the past and was advised that meetings were due to take place at a high level to see if a more acceptable approach could be achieved for the small number of authorities affected by the drainage rate system. He questioned whether the high-level meetings took place and if so, what was the outcome and if they are still to take place he would like to know it will be so that the Council can look to change the unfair system in this area. Councillor Cornwell asked whether Councillor Boden would give advice to the members who are representatives on the various Internal Drainage Boards prior to the rate levels being set, which will take place over the next few weeks. He further asked that consideration be given for the Council Tax demand notices to give a clear explanation which includes the separate details of the drainage board levies, so that the residents of Fenland can be aware of the monies payable to the drainage boards, which is outside of the Council's control. Councillor Boden stated that he agrees wholeheartedly with the comments made by Councillor Cornwell and that he shares the concerns raised by him. He expressed the view that the drainage board levies are a serious issue as far as Fenland is concerned and attempts that were made a year ago to look at some leverage with other affected local authorities, which did not progress due to the pandemic, but he explained that he has already made contact with senior councillors elsewhere in the country for this to be taken forward in a structured way. Councillor Boden advised that both himself and the Chief Executive have advised the local MP to express concerns over the drainage board levies in Fenland and to request changes to be made and a paper will be provided to the MP to provide further detail. He stated that he would encourage all members who sit on Internal Drainage Boards as representatives for the Council to ensure that no local drainage board puts in a very significant increase in its levy. Councillor Boden stated that the drainage boards are set up so that there is a majority of local authority members on each drainage board but not everyone has its full complement of local authority members and in some drainage boards the membership is split over a number of local authorities, but he would hope that our members would carefully consider any excessive demands and avoid them if possible. He referred to the point made by Councillor Cornwell with regard to the detail contained on residents' Council Tax demand notices and stated that it is an excellent idea, however, it would require a change to legislation to allow it to come into effect due to the fact that the format of Council Tax demands is very strictly prescribed.
- Councillor Count stated having reviewed the figures before him and is in firm agreement with the proposals agreed by Cabinet. He referred to the comments made by Councillor Cornwell with regards to the drainage boards and added that he is a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel who have been involved with discussions with Anglian Water concerning issues surrounding flooding in the March area. Councillor Count stated that at a recent County Council meeting, four areas within the County have been identified as being at risk of flooding and March was one of those identified. He explained that as a result it was noted that Anglian Water

and the Environment Agency have capital funds which are match funded but was disappointed to note that a proposal of £4.1 million at the County Council, to try and alleviate flood pressures, was rejected by them, especially when they are the Lead Local Flood Authority. Councillor Count expressed the opinion that when you compare the size of the County Council to the size of the District Council, it is difficult to comprehend that even though the County Council have a sizeable amount of funding in their bank accounts, they are still increasing their Council Tax contributions by 4.99% for adult and social care whilst the District Council is trying to keep a 0% Council Tax increase. He added that he agrees with the comments made by Councillor Cornwell with regard to the public's perception that the Council Tax payments that they make all come to the District Council. Councillor Count expressed the opinion that the Business Plan, in his view, was very easy to read, well prepared document and he congratulated Councillor Tierney for this as it makes a difference to residents as they can have a clear understanding on how their monies are being spent. Councillor Count made reference to the Council's own reserve policy which Councillor Boden had highlighted and had stated that the Council's own reserves need to be considered. He expressed the opinion that it is a wise step but added that unlike other reserves it will not solve a structural deficit and that structural deficit should not be confused with the amount held in reserves which is a separate issue. Councillor Count expressed the view that he totally agrees with the statement that Councillor Boden made with regard to the consideration of budgets, and that income generation also has to be looked at to close the gap together with transformation and efficiencies. He feels that only after all of those factors are considered should the taxpayer then be looked to and, in his view, unfortunately this does not appear to be the case with the County Council. Councillor Count expressed the opinion that a 0% Council Tax increase is the right thing to do for Fenland based on the information before members and he will support the proposal.

- Councillor Yeulett stated that he will support the proposal and he expressed the opinion that Councillor Boden has done a good job under the circumstances and is pleased to see that the budget deficit has been reduced to £203,000. He asked Councillor Boden to explain how long the Cambridgeshire Horizons money will last and whether there are any further monies anticipated going forward which can be guaranteed? Councillor Yeulett agreed with the point raised by Councillor Boden that much of the financial information provided is based on assumptions, which are wholly or partly influenced by external factors and interest rates, and inflation is rising so questioned how Councillor Boden is going to deal with this going forward when considering future budgets and also what effects future interest rates will have on the Council's Investment Strategy. Councillor Yeulett also asked for assurances that the Council will not be out of pocket for financial assistance given to Freedom Leisure.
- Councillor Boden stated that he agrees with the points raised by Councillor Count and that he is particularly disappointed that March does not have the opportunity to share in the potential £12 million funding pot which would have been available had the County Council agreed with the proposal put forward by Councillor Count and which he had supported. In relation to the question raised by Councillor Yeulett about Cambridgeshire Horizons Ltd (CHL), Councillor Boden stated that after a lot of hard work the Council received almost £3.9 million pounds, with Cambridgeshire Horizons being a company that was set up twenty years ago to promote growth within Cambridgeshire and was very active initially but then went into a state of dormancy, whilst holding a significant amount of money within its bank accounts. He stated that the Council have now received those monies and out of that funding more than £1,000,000 has been set aside already to support financing on the A14 and he explained that there is £1,000,000 which will gradually diminish over 20 years, but it will not only earn interest but can also be used to fund other matters. Councillor Boden advised that there is a surplus of £2.4 million pounds remaining from the Cambridgeshire Horizons money, but it must be spent in accordance with the objectives of CHL itself and whilst the objectives are widely written, the Council's Section 151 Officer has to justify every penny that is spent from the CHL money on an annual basis. He stated that there is a period of five years left to spend the money and he gave assurances to Council that all of the money will be spent and none of it will be returned. Councillor Boden referred to the point made by Councillor Yeulett with regard to increasing interest rates and stated that rates are predicated to rise significantly over the next two years

and external events can change the expectations as far as interest rates are concerned. He added that given the cash equivalent that the Council holds there is a gain for the Council in an environment of increased interest rates, which will be obscured by the fact that the Council is working hard to ensure that it receives higher returns on the monies that the Council holds and therefore there is the expectation to see a significant increased return to the Council on the liquid assets that it holds. Councillor Boden stated that with regard to the point raised concerning Freedom Leisure Ltd it is unfortunate that no guarantee can be made that the Council will not find itself out of pocket due to the financial assistance given to them. He added that due to contractual agreements, the Council found itself in a position where it was obliged to provide financial support to them which commenced with grant aid and then as time has gone on the support has evolved into loans which are repayable when certain targets are met by Freedom Leisure. Councillor Boden stated that the amount loaned equated to £1.2 million pounds and £400,000 of that figure was off set with the Government support which came through to Councils such as Fenland who has contracted out their leisure services, however, there is still an outstanding amount in loans of £800,000 and this is being closely monitored along with support being provided to Freedom Leisure to meet and exceed their targets and there is every hope that during the course of the remaining term of the contract the outstanding monies will be paid.

- Councillor Sutton stated that he will reserve his support for this agenda item, although he supports the no increase to Council Tax, but would like to have seen a decrease as, in his opinion, Fenland's proportion of the Council Tax is far higher than neighbouring authorities. He referred to page 92 of the report, where it mentions £1,000,050 being set aside for the A14 upgrade, expressing the view that historically under a previous leadership, that figure had been negotiated down to £800,000 and he is concerned that in the 2021/22 budget report there was a sum set aside of £32,000 per annum whereas in the report for 2022/2023 the figure is shown as £42,000 and questioned how that figure has changed and why the Council is paying £250,000 more than was previously agreed. Councillor Boden stated that the point that Councillor Sutton has made is incorrect as he has stated that the amount of liability going toward the A14 improvements has increased to £250,000, when the correct amount is actually £1,000,050, with the £800,000 and the £32,000 figures that Councillor Sutton had quoted still in existence and will continue year on year as the £1,000,050 is an additional liability due to the fact that when the monies were received from Cambridgeshire Horizons Limited, they had already committed to just over £5,000,000 of support to the A14 project and, therefore, when the £2,840,000 from CHL was received to be used for the Council's benefit, at the same time £1,000,050 liability was also taken on for the A14, with the Council receiving the cash for this. He expressed the opinion that it is a good position for the Council to be in as it provides the Council the opportunity to use the funds even though it diminishes by £42,000 over the next 20 years. Councillor Boden explained that the Council were given the additional funds by CHL, this is what is reflected in the budget figures within the report and the Council has the opportunity to utilise the money over the specified period of time albeit an additional liability for the A14, but it is fully funded in advance.
- Councillor Sutton asked for clarification that Councillor Boden's explanation means that there is still the £800,000 liability plus the £1,000,050 which is cost neutral as the money has been given to the Council. Councillor Boden stated that it is not cost neutral it is cost beneficial to the Council as the Council has the advantage of using the cash whilst it is being paid back over the 20-year period. He clarified that the £800,000 is unchanged and will be re-paid at £32,000 per year and the £1,000,050 has been paid to the Council up front and has to be repaid to the Department of Transport at the rate of £42,000 a year. Councillor Sutton thanked for Councillor Boden for the explanation and confirmed he would be happy to now support the recommendations within the report.
- Councillor Tierney thanked Councillor Count with regard to his praise concerning the clarity and improvements to the presentation of the Business Plan document and stated that it is mainly down to officers for the way the document is prepared, and his input is minimal. He expressed the view that he is pleased to see the members of the opposition supporting the budget proposals and low tax ambitions as the attitude of the opposition at Fenland is different to the

opposition members at the County Council. Councillor Tierney stated that, in his view, the Council are doing the right thing with regards to a no Council Tax increase as the financial situation is only going to get worse for those members of the public who are already on the breadline. He added that there are the consequences of environmental net zero policies which are going to cost a great deal of money, the costs of Covid spending and international conflicts which will all prove to be costly and, in his opinion, if ever there was a time for Councils to tighten their belts to take the pressure off the public that time is now. He stated that he is proud of the Leadership, of officers and of the opposition and he will be supporting the recommendation.

- Councillor Cornwell asked for it to be recorded that the Fenland Independent Alliance have no links whatsoever with those County Councillors who claim to be Independent or members of other political parties.

**Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Tierney and AGREED that**

- (i) the General Fund revenue budget for 2022/23 as set out in Section 9 and Appendix A be approved;**
- (ii) the Medium-Term Financial Strategy as outlined in this report and Appendix B be adopted;**
- (iii) the Capital Programme and funding statement as set out in Appendix D be approved;**
- (iv) the adoption of the additional Business Rates Relief measures as detailed in Section 6 and Appendix H using Discretionary Relief Powers be approved;**
- (v) the expenses detailed in Section 12 be approved to be treated as general expenses for 2022/23;**
- (vi) the Port Health levy for 2022/23 be set as shown in Section 13;**
- (vii) the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision, Treasury Investment Strategy, Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2022/23 and Capital Strategy 2022/23 as set out in Section 15 and Appendix E be approved;**
- (viii) the Band D Council Tax level for Fenland District Council Services for 2022/23 be set at £260.46, no increase on the current year.**

**The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 impose an obligation on Local Authorities (after 25 February 2014) to record all votes on decisions on budget and Council Tax, with this in mind Members voted on this item as follows:**

**In Favour: Councillors Benney, Boden, J Clark, S Clark, Cornwell, Count, Mrs Davis, Divine, Mrs French, Miss French, Hay, Hoy, Humphrey, Mrs Laws, Lynn, Marks, Mason, Mrs Mayor, Meekins, Miscandlon, Mockett, Murphy, Patrick, Purser, Sutton, Tanfield, Tierney, Wallwork, Wicks, Wilkes and Yeulett.**

**Against: none**

**Abstentions: none**

*(Councillor Mrs Bligh left the meeting at 17.30 during consideration of this item and took no part in the vote on this item or the remaining agenda items)*

## **C41/21      COUNCIL TAX RESOLUTION**

Members considered the Council Tax Resolution 2022/23 report presented by Councillor Boden.

**Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Tierney and AGREED to approve the resolution set out in the report to set the Council Tax requirement.**

**The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 impose an obligation on Local Authorities (after 25 February 2014) to record all votes on decisions on budget and Council Tax, with this in mind Members voted on this item as follows:**

**In Favour: Councillors Benney, Boden, J Clark, S Clark, Cornwell, Count, Mrs Davis, Divine, Mrs French, Miss French, Hay, Hoy, Humphrey, Mrs Laws, Lynn, Marks, Mason, Mrs Mayor, Meekins, Miscandlon, Mockett, Murphy, Patrick, Purser, Sutton, Tanfield, Tierney, Wallwork, Wicks, Wilkes and Yeulett.**

**Against: none**

**Abstentions: none**

## **C42/21      COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME**

The Chairman advised members of Council that there was an alteration to the original recommendation for this report, which was made after the publication of the agenda and is as a result of the Government's recent announcement mandating that payments made under the Energy Rebate Scheme 2022 should be disregarded for the purpose of determining Council Tax reductions.

The Chairman stated that the Council's Constitution permits an alteration to the original recommendation with the consent of the meeting, which was received.

Members considered the Council Tax Support Scheme 2022/23 report presented by Councillor Boden.

**Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Hoy and AGREED that:**

- **the proposed changes, detailed in Section 4 of the attached report, be implemented in the Council Tax Support Scheme with effect from 1 April 2022**
- **the Council Tax Support Scheme to take effect from 1 April 2022 be approved**
- **the provision that any payment made under the Energy Rebate Scheme 2022 is to be disregarded in determining Council Tax reductions be included within the scheme.**

**The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 impose an obligation on Local Authorities (after 25 February 2014) to record all votes on decisions on budget and Council Tax, with this in mind Members voted on this item as follows:**

**In favour: Councillors Benney, Boden, J Clark, S Clark, Cornwell, Count, Mrs Davis, Divine, Mrs French, Miss French, Hay, Hoy, Humphrey, Mrs Laws, Lynn, Marks, Mason, Mrs Mayor, Meekins, Miscandlon, Mockett, Murphy, Patrick, Purser, Sutton, Tanfield, Tierney, Wallwork, Wicks, Wilkes and Yeulett.**

**Against the proposal: none**

**Abstentions: none**

*(Councillors J Clark and Wilkes left the meeting at 17.55pm after this item and were not present for the remainder of the agenda items)*

## **C43/21      ECONOMIC GROWTH STRATEGIC REFRESH 2022-25**

Members considered the Economic Growth Strategic Refresh 2022/25 report presented by Councillor Benney.

Members made comments, asked questions and received responses as follows:

- Councillor Yeulett asked what forums and meetings were in place for current business leaders to meet with the Council and if any were in place had they been useful? Councillor Benney stated that there were no specific meetings within Fenland which have been set up to invite businesses in to discuss their requirements, although it is something that has been discussed with officers. He added that he has discussed with officers the possibility of holding breakfast or lunch meetings, but one of the factors being considered is who to target and who to invite and although it is still being discussed it has not been brought forward to date. Councillor Benney added that the Economic Growth Team are pushing forward ideas and projects that the team have instigated and continue to work on those that have proved to be successful. He stated that if any meetings are arranged for businesses, he will ensure that all members are made aware. Councillor Yeulett stated that he is aware that businesses by their very nature are competitive and by meeting together there is the opportunity for expertise to be shared by networking. Councillor Benney stated that he has accompanied officers on a number of visits to local businesses and one of the common concerns for businesses appears to be problems surrounding recruitment and the trained staff that they require. He added that businesses are also finding it difficult in finding suitable premises when looking to relocate due to expansion. Councillor Benney stated that some businesses are in competition with each other and do not want to engage although he appreciates the point that businesses can learn from each other.
- Councillor Miscandlon stated that many businesses are considering employing apprentices in order to grow the skill set that their companies need for future development, and that the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) wholeheartedly support this.
- Councillor Benney stated in Chatteris there is the Stainless Metalcraft Training Centre and the CPCA have contributed £3.2 million pounds into that centre and the Growing Fenland Project has also assisted with computer equipment and desks for the building as it will be used by the whole area and local people, not just for the business. He stated that it is a big success for the area and Councillor Miscandlon stated that he applauds the project.
- Councillor Sutton asked Councillor Benney for responses and clarification on a number of points from within the report. He referred to Page 183 at 4.1 where it states that there is clear evidence that the Council plays a vital role with regards to economic growth, and he questioned where he can find the evidence? He also referred to page 197, point 3, and asked for clarification with regards to the figure shown for the number of persons employed within the hospitality business. In reference to Page 205, where it mentions flood risk, he feels that given that the biggest employment within the area is in agriculture, in his view, it should have stated flood risk and drought due to the fact that, in terms of food supply, drought would have a bigger risk than that of flood. Finally, he referred to Page 207 where it makes reference to outcomes, actions and measurables with a deadline date of June 2022 and asked how confident Councillor Benney is that the deadline date will be met as, in his opinion, the target date of the end of June appears to be quite ambitious. Councillor Benney stated that with regards to flood risk, a great deal of that is weather dependent which is something he has no control over. He added that with regard to the statement made by Councillor Sutton concerning targets, in his opinion, when working with economic growth, targets have to be set and he welcomes high targets and if they are not achieved then so be it but at least the aim is high and if the targets appear to be high that is because

the Economic Growth Team aspire to aim high and if necessary, the targets can be readjusted accordingly. Councillor Sutton stated that there is nothing wrong with aiming high but, in his view, he thinks some of the targets are unachievable.

- Councillor Sutton asked Councillor Benney how confident he is that from an economic growth perspective the Council can strive to get in the position it wants to be in without a member of the Corporate Management Team in post? Councillor Benney stated that he has the full support of the Chief Executive, Paul Medd, and that the whole of the Economic Growth Team work with the Chief Executive and, therefore, in his opinion, it is led from the top.
- Councillor Hoy stated that she had attended a recent meeting which Dr Nik Johnson, the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, was at and a member of the public had referred to the potential loss of a local bus service highlighting that if they cannot get to a town centre to use the facilities then that is an economic loss to that town. She expressed the view that when people talk about public transport, they state that it is good for their health and wellbeing or the carbon neutral effects, with the economic benefits never being mentioned and she would imagine that there should be a calculation to demonstrate the cost of running the service, against the loss of service and the impact that would have on local businesses. Councillor Hoy expressed the view that it maybe something that can be explored going forward.
- Councillor Benney stated that if data were to be analysed at that level there would need to be a specific team employed to look at data and statistics which, in his opinion, is not viable.

**Proposed by Councillor Benney, seconded by Councillor Mrs French and AGREED that the Economic Growth Strategic Refresh 2022-25 be approved.**

*(Councillor Tanfield left the meeting at 6.09pm and Councillor Patrick left the meeting at 6.15pm during the discussion on this item and were not present at the vote. They were not present for the consideration of the remaining agenda items)*

#### **C44/21      FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPOINTING THE COUNCIL'S EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

Members considered the future arrangements for appointing the Council's External Auditors report presented by Councillor Miss French.

**Proposed by Councillor Miss French, seconded by Councillor Sutton and AGREED to opt-in to the PSAA sector led auditor appointment arrangements for the Council and to delegate acceptance of the invitation to the Corporate Director and Chief Finance Officer, as the Council's Section 151 Officer.**

*(Councillor Boden declared that he is a member of the Audit Registration Committee of The Institute of Chartered Accountants for England and Wales which has the responsibility on an annual basis for allowing auditors in the public sector to continue as auditors and took no part in the discussion or voting on this item)*

*(Councillor Benney left the meeting at 6.19pm during the discussion on this item and was not present at the vote. He was not present for the remaining agenda items.)*

#### **C45/21      CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Members considered the changes to the Constitution and committee membership report presented by Councillor Boden.

**Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Lynn and AGREED that the**



**changes to the constitution and committee membership taken by the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer under their respective delegations be approved.**

**C46/21      SENIOR MANAGER PAY POLICY STATEMENT**


Members considered the Senior Manager Pay Policy report presented by Councillor Boden.

**Proposed by Councillor Boden, seconded by Councillor Sutton and AGREED to adopt the Senior Management Pay Policy Statement for 2021/22 at Appendix 1 as required by the Localism Act 2011.**

6.27 pm

Chairman

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|------------------|--|--|
| Agenda Item No.: | 10   |  |
| Committee:       | Council  |  |
| Date:            | 12 May 2022  |  |
| Report Title:    | Committee Structure, Political Balance and Allocation of Seats |  |

## 1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- 1.1. The purpose of this Report is to agree the committee structure and terms of reference for the forthcoming municipal year as well as confirming the allocation of seats to those committees and also to outside bodies in accordance with political proportionality rules and to receive notification of the appointments to them.

## 2. KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. The Constitution provides under Rule 1, paragraph 1.2 that at the Annual Meeting, Council will:
  - (a) determine which committees and panels should be established for the ensuing municipal year;
  - (b) agree the terms of reference for those committees/panels as outlined in the [Constitution](#)
  - (c) allocate the seats and position of the Chairman and Vice Chairman to Political Groups in accordance with political proportionality rules where appropriate in respect of committees, panels and outside bodies;
  - (d) receive notification and to appoint Councillors to the allocated seats on each committee and panel and to serve as Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
- 2.2. Political Groups are allocated seats proportionate to their size.

## 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Council:

- 3.1. Maintains the Committees and Panels set out at Appendix A for the 2022/23 municipal year;
- 3.2. Agrees that the terms of reference set out at Part 3 of the Council's [Constitution](#) in relation to the committees and panels referred to at paragraph 3.1 above should continue as currently drafted;
- 3.3. Agrees the allocation of seats and position of Chairman and Vice Chairman on those committees subject to political balance arrangements (Appendix A);
- 3.4. Agrees the appointments to seats allocated in accordance with paragraph 3.3 above (Appendix B) to include co-opted or non-members; and
- 3.5. Agrees the list of Outside Bodies and allocation of seats in accordance with political balance arrangements as set out at Appendix C for 2022/23. Appointments will be made by Cabinet.

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Wards Affected</b>       | All  |
| <b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>  | N/A  |
| <b>Report Originator(s)</b> | Amy Brown, Head of Legal and Governance and Acting Monitoring Officer – <a href="mailto:amybrown@fenland.gov.uk">amybrown@fenland.gov.uk</a><br><br>Peter Catchpole – Corporate Director and Section 151 Officer<br><a href="mailto:petercatchpole@fenland.gov.uk">petercatchpole@fenland.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Contact Officer(s)</b>   | Elaine Cooper, Team Leader – Elections, Land charges and Member Services – <a href="mailto:ecooper@fenland.gov.uk">ecooper@fenland.gov.uk</a>  |
| <b>Background papers</b>    | Fenland District Council's Constitution  |

#### **4. BACKGROUND/INTRODUCTION**

- 4.1. For each municipal year, Council must agree the Committees and Panels which are to be established. On establishing the Committees and Panels, in accordance with the rules relating to Political Proportionality the seats on each committee and panel together with the position of Chairman and Vice Chairman are then allocated to Political Parties. Council also receives notification of the appointments to these Committees. Council is also required to confirm allocations to Outside Bodies based again on political proportionality.

#### **5. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

- 5.1. As per paragraph 2.1, the Constitution provides that the Council considers the establishment and terms of reference of committees at its Annual Meeting. This must be determined before seats can be allocated to committees in accordance with the political proportionality rules.
- 5.2. The Committees and Panels of Fenland District Council are as identified in Appendix A and their terms or reference are as set out at Part 3 of the Constitution. No changes have been proposed to either for the forthcoming municipal year.

#### **6. ALLOCATION OF SEATS**

##### **6.1. Political Proportionality**

- 6.1.1. As per paragraph 2.1 the Constitution provides that the Council allocation of seats and position of Chairman and Vice Chairman are subject to political balance arrangements where appropriate.
- 6.1.2. The rules relating to political proportionality in relation to membership of committees are set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the supporting regulations.
- 6.1.3. For the purposes of the regulations a political group must consist of two or more members who have signed a declaration to that effect.

- 6.1.4. Where one or more groups exists the relative proportions of the groups should be used in allocating seats on committees/outside bodies. Therefore, any elected members who are not part of a group are not automatically allocated seats on committees. If however, there are any seats which remain unallocated after political groups have been given their proportionate allocation, those unallocated seats will be given to ungrouped members.
- 6.1.5. The distribution of the 39 current members of the Council within the group structures is as follows:

| Group   | Number | Percentage |
|---|--------|------------|
| Conservatives   | 27     | 69%        |
| Fenland Independents Alliance (Including 2 Liberal Democrats) | 12     | 31%        |

- 6.1.6. The proposed allocation of seats and position of Chairman and Vice Chairman on the committees referred to at paragraph 5 and subject to political balance arrangements are as set out at Appendix A.

## **6.2. Outside Bodies**

- 6.2.1. Also in accordance with political proportionality requirements Fenland District Council allocates seats on outside bodies where there are 2 or more appointments to be made. The list of Outside Bodies and the allocation of seats is as set out at Appendix C.
- 6.2.2. Confirmation of membership to the Outside Bodies will be undertaken by a subsequent meeting of Cabinet which will allow sufficient time for Group Leaders to appoint to their allocation of seats.

## **7. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

- 7.1. As per paragraph 2.1, the Constitution provides that Council agrees the appointments to the seats allocated at paragraph 6 above.
- 7.2. The terms of reference of the Conduct Committee also provide for the appointment of up to 2 co-opted members and Independent Persons.
- 7.3. The proposed allocations for the forthcoming municipal year are as set out at Appendix B.

## **Appendix A - Allocation of Seats on Committees & Panels**

| Committee                                | Membership  | Political Apportionment   |
|--|---|---|
| Overview and Scrutiny                    | <p>Up to 13 members of the Council (none of which may be part of the Cabinet)</p> <p>6 substitute members</p> <p>Appointment:            Chairman<br/>                                 Vice Chairman</p>  | <p>9 to Conservative Group<br/>4 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>Substitute members<br/>4 to Conservative Group<br/>2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group<br/>To the Conservative Group</p>     |
| Planning Committee                       | <p>Up to 13 members of the Council. No more than four of which can be members of the Cabinet.</p> <p>Each political group can appoint up to 4 substitute members (8 substitute members)</p> <p>Appointment:            Chairman<br/>                                 Vice Chairman</p>    | <p>9 to Conservative Group<br/>4 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>4 substitute members from each political group</p> <p>To the Conservative Group<br/>To the Conservative Group</p>  |
| Licensing Committee (Licensing Act 2003) | <p>Up to 13 members of the Council.</p> <p>The same Members are to be appointed for the Licensing Act 2003 Committee and the Non Licensing Act 2003 Committee.</p> <p>6 substitute members</p> <p>Appointment:            Chairman<br/>                                 Vice Chairman</p> | <p>9 to the Conservative Group<br/>4 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>Substitute members<br/>4 to Conservative Group<br/>2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group<br/>To the Conservative Group</p> |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Audit and Risk Management Committee</p> | <p>Up to 13 members of the Council to be formed from:<br/> Up to 3 members of Cabinet not including the portfolio holder responsible for finance<br/> Up to 3 members drawn from the Overview and Scrutiny panel<br/> 7 Backbench members</p> <p>6 substitute members</p> <p>Appointment:           Chairman<br/>                                     Vice Chairman</p> <p>The Chairman may not be a member of Cabinet</p> <p>The Audit and Risk Management Determination Sub Committee is no more than 6 members drawn from the Audit and Risk Management Committee</p> | <p>9 to the Conservative Group<br/> 4 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>Substitute members<br/> 4 to Conservative Group<br/> 2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group<br/> To the Conservative Group</p>  |
| <p>Conduct Committee</p>                   | <p>Up to 6 Members of the Council</p> <p>3 substitute members</p> <p>Appointment:           Chairman<br/>                                     Vice Chairman</p> <p>The Committee may also appoint itself up to two members of Town or Parish Councils to assist its work.</p> <p>Independent Person:<br/> Deputy Independent Person:</p>   | <p>4 to Conservative Group<br/> 2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>Substitute members<br/> 2 to Conservative Group<br/> 1 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group<br/> To the Conservative Group</p> <p>Currently:<br/> Councillor Andrew Donnelly<br/> Vacancy</p> <p>Stuart Webster<br/> Claire Hawden-Beal</p> |

|                           |  |   |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| <p>Appointments Panel</p> | <p>Up to 7 members and not less than 3 nominated by the Leader to reflect political proportionality</p> <p>3 substitute members</p> <p>Appointment:            Chairman<br/>                                 Vice Chairman</p> | <p>5 to the Conservative Group<br/>2 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>Substitute members<br/>2 to Conservative Group<br/>1 to The Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)</p> <p>To the Conservative Group<br/>To the Conservative Group</p> |
|---------------------------|--|---|



## **Appendix B- Appointments to Committees and Panels**

### **Cabinet (10)**

|                                |                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Councillor Ian Benney          | Councillor Mrs Dee Laws  |
| Councillor Chris Boden (C)     | Councillor Andrew Lynn   |
| Councillor Sam Clark           | Councillor Peter Murphy  |
| Councillor Mrs Jan French (VC) | Councillor Chris Seaton  |
| Councillor Miss Sam Hoy        | Councillor Steve Tierney |

### **Overview and Scrutiny Panel (13)**

|                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Councillor Gavin Booth      | Councillor Alex Miscandlon (VC) |
| Councillor David Connor     | Councillor Mark Purser          |
| Councillor Mike Cornwell    | Councillor Robert Skoulding     |
| Councillor Steve Count      | Councillor David Topgood        |
| Councillor Anne Hay         | Councillor Bob Wicks            |
| Councillor Michael Humphrey | Councillor Fred Yeulett         |
| Councillor David Mason (C)  |                                 |

#### **Substitutes:**

Cllr Sarah Bligh, Cllr Andy Maul, Cllr Michelle Tanfield, Cllr Simon Wilkes  
 Cllr Maureen Davis, Cllr Mrs Kay Mayor + 2 vacancies

### **Planning Committee (13)**

|                                   |                          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Councillor Ian Benney             | Councillor Mrs Kay Mayor |
| Councillor Mike Cornwell          | Councillor Peter Murphy  |
| Councillor David Connor (C)       | Councillor Mark Purser   |
| Councillor Mrs Maureen Davis (VC) | Councillor Rob Skoulding |
| Councillor Mrs Jan French         | Councillor Will Sutton   |
| Councillor Charlie Marks          | Councillor David Topgood |
|                                   | Vacancy                  |

#### **Substitutes:**

Cllr Gavin Booth, Cllr Daniel Divine, Cllr David Patrick, Cllr Michelle Tanfield  
 Cllr Michael Humphrey, Cllr Andrew Lynn, Cllr Alex Miscandlon, Cllr Billy Rackley

### **Licensing Committee (13)**

|                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Councillor David Connor         | Councillor Mrs Kay Mayor         |
| Councillor Miss Sam Hoy         | Councillor Nick Meekins          |
| Councillor Michael Humphrey (C) | Councillor Billy Rackley         |
| Councillor Andrew Lynn          | Councillor Robert Skoulding (VC) |
| Councillor Charlie Marks        | Councillor David Topgood         |
| Councillor Andy Maul            | Councillor Simon Wilkes          |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | Vacancy  |
| <b>Substitutes:</b><br>Cllr Bob Wicks, Cllr David Patrick<br>Cllr Ian Benney, Cllr Alex Miscandlon, Cllr Peter Murphy, Cllr Mark Purser |  |
| <b>Audit and Risk Management Committee (13)</b>   |  |
| Councillor Ian Benney   | Councillor Jason Mockett   |
| Councillor Gavin Booth  | Councillor Mark Purser   |
| Councillor Maureen Davis (VC)   | Councillor Robert Skoulding                                      |
| Councillor Kim French (C)   | Councillor Steve Tierney   |
| Councillor Jan French   | Councillor Bob Wicks   |
| Councillor Nick Meekins   | Councillor Fred Yeulett  |
|   | Vacancy  |
| <b>Substitutes:</b><br>4 vacancies<br>Cllr David Connor, Cllr Sam Hoy, Cllr Michael Humphrey, Cllr Dee Laws                             |  |
| <b><u>Conduct Committee (6)</u></b>   |  |
| Councillor Andy Maul  |  |
| Councillor Jason Mockett  | Councillor David Topgood (VC)                                    |
| Councillor David Patrick  | Councillor Mrs Susan Wallwork (C)                                |
| Councillor Mark Purser  |  |
| <b>Substitutes:</b><br>Cllr Simon Wilkes<br>Cllr Sam Hoy, Cllr David Connor   |  |
| <b>Independent People</b><br>Independent Person: Stuart Webster<br>Deputy Independent Person: Claire Hawden-Beal                        | <b>Town/Parish Reps</b><br>Councillor Andrew Donnelly<br>Vacancy |
| <b><u>Appointments Panel (7)</u></b>  |  |
| Councillor Chris Boden  | Councillor Robert Skoulding                                      |
| Councillor Steve Count  | Councillor Will Sutton   |
| Councillor Mrs Jan French   | Councillor Steve Tierney   |
| Councillor Andy Maul  |  |
| <b>Substitutes:</b><br>Cllr Fred Yeulett<br>Cllr Kim French, Cllr Sam Hoy   |  |
| <b><u>Investment Board (3)</u></b>  |  |
| Councillor Ian Benney   |  |
| Councillor Chris Boden  | Councillor Steve Tierney   |
| <b>Substitutes:</b> Cllr Sam Hoy, Cllr Chris Seaton   |  |

## **Appendix C - Allocation of seats on Outside Bodies**

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>   | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>                         | <b>Proportionality</b>   |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| 1             | Anglia Revenue Partnership  | 1 + 2 substitutes                         | Cllr Mrs French<br>Substitute members<br>Cllr Connor<br>Cllr Miss French | Conservative Party representation  |
| 2             | Benwick Internal Drainage Board (IDB)                                   | 4   | Cllr Laws<br>Cllr Miscandlon<br>Cllr Mrs Mayor<br>Cllr Wicks             | 3 Conservatives<br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party) |
| 3             | Cambridgeshire Horizons Board   | 1   | Cllr Boden   | Conservative Party representation  |
| 4             | Cambridgeshire Military Community Covenant Board                        | 1   | Cllr Tierney   | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 5             | Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel                                   | 1 + 1 substitute                          | Cllr Lynn<br>substitute member<br>Cllr Connor                            | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 6             | Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board + District Lead Members Group | 1   | Cllr Clark   | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 7             | Chatteris Community Centre Association                                  | 2   | Cllr Murphy or<br>Cllr Benney TBC<br>Cllr Divine                         | 1 Conservative<br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)  |
| 8             | College of West Anglia Governing Body                                   | 1   | Cllr Topgood   | Conservative Party Representation  |

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>                        | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>                           | <b>Proportionality</b>  |
|---------------|--|---|--|---|
| 9             | Community Learning and Skills Partnership  | 1   | Cllr Benney  | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 10            | Curf and Wimblington Combined IDB          | 1   | Cllr Davis   | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 11            | Feldale IDB                                | 7   | Cllr Laws<br>Cllr Boden<br>Cllr Miscandlon<br>Cllr Mrs Mayor<br>Cllr Wicks | 5 Conservatives<br>(1 Conservative vacancy)<br><br>2 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)<br><br>(1 FIA Vacancy) |
| 12            | Fenland Association of Community Transport | 1   | Cllr Seaton  | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 13            | Fenland Diverse Communities Forum          | 1   | Cllr Tierney   | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 14            | Fenland Health and Care Forum              | Open meeting                              |  | Open meeting available for elected members and members of the public wishing to attend  |
| 15            | Fenland Tension Monitoring Group           | 1   | Cllr Hoy   | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 16            | Fenland Transport and Access Partnership   | 1   | Cllr Topgood   | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 17            | Fenland Transport Strategy                 | 2   | Cllr Seaton<br>Cllr Wicks  | 1 Conservative<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)   |

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>                             | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>   | <b>Proportionality</b>   |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| 18            | Fenland Twinning Association                    | 4   | Cllr Mrs Hay<br>Cllr Mrs Mayor<br>Cllr Topgood<br>Cllr Cornwell  | 3 Conservatives<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)   |
| 19            | Hanson, Fletton Brickworks Industry             | 1   | Cllr Boden   | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 20            | Health Committee                                | 1 + 1 substitute                          | Cllr Clark<br><br>Substitute Member<br>Cllr Topgood  | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 21            | Hundred of Wisbech IDB                          | 15  | Cllr Topgood<br>Cllr Wallwork<br>Cllr Lynn<br>Cllr Hoy<br>Cllr Rackley<br>Cllr Sutton<br>Cllr Booth<br>Cllr Tanfield | 10 Conservatives<br><br>(5 Conservative vacancies)<br><br>5 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)<br><br>(2 FIA Vacancies) |
| 22            | Kings Lynn IDB                                  | 1   | Cllr Rackley   | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 23            | LGA/ LGA Rural Commission/ LGA Urban Commission | 1 + 1 Substitute                          | Cllr Boden<br><br>Substitute member<br><br>Cllr Mrs French   | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 24            | Manea and Welney Drainage Commissioners         | 3   | Cllr Marks<br><br>Cllr Sutton  | 2 Conservative<br><br>(1 Conservative vacancy)<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats)  |

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>   | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>   | <b>Proportionality</b>   |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
|               |   |   |  | and 1 Member of The Green Party)<br><br>Councillor Sutton takes 1 Conservative seat  |
| 25            | March Area Transport Study  | 2   | Cllr Count<br><br>Cllr Cornwell  | 1 Conservative<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)  |
| 26            | March West and White Fen Internal Drainage Board (Previously known as March and Whittlesey IDB) | 6   | Cllr Mrs French<br><br>Cllr Mrs Laws<br><br>Cllr Miscandlon<br><br>Cllr Cornwell<br><br>Cllr Wicks           | 4 Conservatives (1 Conservative vacancy)<br><br>2 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)                          |
| 27            | March East IDB  | 11  | Cllr Purser<br><br>Cllr Clark<br><br>Cllr Topgood<br><br>Cllr Cornwell<br><br>Cllr Marks<br><br>Cllr Yeulett | 7 Conservatives (4 Conservative vacancies)<br><br>4 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)<br><br>(1 FIA vacancy) |
| 28            | March Education Foundation  | 1   | Cllr Purser  | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 29            | March Fifth District Drainage Commissioners   | 8   | Cllr Mrs French<br><br>Cllr Cornwell   | 5 Conservatives (4 Conservative  |

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>                         | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>         | <b>Proportionality</b>   |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
|               |   |   | Cllr Yeulett   | vacancies)<br><br>3 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)<br><br>(1 FIA vacancy)                 |
| 30            | March Sixth District Drainage Commissioners | 4   | Cllr Mrs French<br><br>Cllr Cornwell                     | 3 Conservatives<br><br>(2 Conservative vacancies)<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party) |
| 31            | March Third IDB                             | 5   | Cllr Mrs French<br><br>Cllr Cornwell<br><br>Cllr Yeulett | 3 Conservatives<br><br>(2 Conservative vacancies)<br><br>2 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party) |
| 32            | Middle Level Commissioners                  | 3   | Cllr Laws<br><br>Cllr Miscandlon<br><br>Cllr Sutton      | 2 Conservatives<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)                                   |
| 33            | Needham and Laddus IDB                      | 1   | Cllr Sutton  | Conservative Party Representation<br><br>FIA has   |

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>  | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>  | <b>Proportionality</b>  |
|---------------|--|---|---|---|
|               |  |   |   | Conservative seat   |
| 34            | Nightlayer IDB   | 10  | Cllr Benney<br>Cllr Mrs French<br>Cllr Hay<br>Cllr Murphy<br>Cllr Divine                                      | 7 Conservatives<br>(3 Conservative vacancies)<br><br>3 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)<br><br>(2 FIA vacancies) |
| 35            | North Level District IDB                                   | 7   | Cllr Humphrey<br>Cllr Sam Clark<br>Cllr Laws<br>Cllr Mrs Mayor<br>Cllr Miscandlon<br>Cllr Booth<br>Cllr Wicks | 5 Conservatives<br><br>2 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)  |
| 36            | Wisbech Community Development Trust (Oasis Village Centre) | 1   | Cllr Rackley was the nominated representative but stood down in June 2020.                                    | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 37            | Ransonmoor District Drainage Commissioners                 | 2   | Cllr Connor<br>Cllr Wicks   | 1 Conservative<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)   |
| 38            | RECAP  | 1 +1 Substitute member                    | Cllr Murphy<br>Substitute member<br>Cllr Tierney  | Conservative Party Representation   |




| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>                                      | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>                               | <b>Proportionality</b>   |
|---------------|--|---|--|--|
| 39            | Rural Cambs CAB  | 3   | Cllr Miscandlon<br>Cllr Booth  | 2 Conservatives<br><br>(1 Conservative vacancy)<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party) |
| 40            | Safer Fenland Partnership                                | 1   | Cllr Lynn  | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 41            | The Wash and North Norfolk Marine Partnership            | 1   | Cllr Rackley   | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 42            | The Combined Authority                                   | 1 + 1 Substitute                          | Cllr Boden<br>Substitute member<br>Cllr Mrs French                             | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 43            | The Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee   | 2 + 2 Substitutes                         | Cllr Hay<br>Cllr Miscandlon<br>Substitute members<br>Cllr Tierney<br>1 vacancy | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 44            | The Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee    | 1 + 1 Substitute                          | Cllr Benney<br>Substitute member<br>Cllr Hoy                                   | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 45            | The Combined Authority Employment Committee              | 1 +1 sub                                  | Cllr Miss French<br>Cllr Mrs Davis (substitute)                                | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 46            | The Combined Authority Housing and Communities Committee | 1+1 Sub                                   | Cllr Boden<br>Cllr Mrs Laws (substitute)                                       | Conservative Party Representation  |

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>   | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b>        | <b>Proportionality</b>  |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| 47            | The Combined Authority Transport and Infrastructure Committee | 1+1 Sub                                   | Cllr Seaton<br>Cllr Boden (substitute)                  | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 48            | The Combined Authority Skills Committee                       | 1+1 Sub                                   | Cllr Seaton<br>Cllr Mason (substitute)                  | Conservative Party Representation   |
| 49            | Upwell IDB  | 2   | Cllr Rackley<br>Cllr Sutton                             | 1 Conservative<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)                         |
| 50            | Waldersey IDB   | 2   | Cllr Rackley<br>Cllr Sutton                             | 1 Conservative<br><br>1 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)                         |
| 51            | Warboys, Somersham and Pidley IDB                             | 1   | No nominated representative                             | Conservative Party Representation<br><br>(1 Conservative vacancy)   |
| 52            | Whittlesey & District IDB                                     | 5   | Cllr Mason<br>Cllr Laws<br>Cllr Mrs Mayor<br>Cllr Wicks | 3 Conservatives<br><br>2 Fenland Independents Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party)<br><br>(1 FIA vacancy) |
| 53            | Wisbech Access Strategy Member Steering Group                 | 2   | Cllr Lynn or<br>Cllr Rackley TBC                        | 1 Conservative<br><br>1 Fenland Independents  |

| <b>Ref No</b> | <b>Outside Body</b>                                 | <b>Number of representatives required</b> | <b>Current nominated representatives 2021/22</b> | <b>Proportionality</b>   |
|---------------|---|---|--|--|
|               |   |   | Cllr Booth                                       | Alliance (including 2 Liberal Democrats and 1 Member of The Green Party) |
| 54            | Young People March                                  | 1   | Cllr Purser                                      | Conservative Party Representation  |
| 55.           | Water Resources East (WRE) Strategic Advisory Group | 1   | Cllr Laws  | Conservative Party Representation  |

\*Confirmation of membership to the Outside Bodies will be undertaken by a subsequent meeting of Cabinet, which will allow sufficient time for Group Leaders to appoint to their allocation of seats.

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|                 |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Agenda Item No: | 11   |  |
| Committee:      | Council  |  |
| Date:           | 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2022                            |  |
| Report Title:   | Combined Authority Membership and Other Appointments |  |

## 1. PURPOSE/SUMMARY

- 1.1. To request the Council to make appointments to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for the municipal year 2022/23.

## 2. KEY ISSUES

- 2.1. In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority Board. This is usually the Leader of the Council.
- 2.2. The Council is also asked to make appointments to the Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Audit and Governance Committee, Employment Committee, Housing and Communities Committee, Skills Committee and Transport and Infrastructure Committee.

## 3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. To agree the appointments and nominations to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board and Non-Executive Committees for the municipal year 2022/23 as set out at Appendices 1 and 2 of this Report (to be tabled).
- 3.2. To note the proposed nominations to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Executive Committees for the municipal year 2022/23 as set out at Appendix 3 of this Report (to be tabled).
- 3.3. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make any amendments to the appointments to the Combined Authority Board, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee in consultation with the relevant Political Group Leaders, if the political balance is amended by the Authority between now and the next Council meeting and at any time throughout the municipal year.

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Wards Affected</b>         | All   |
| <b>Forward Plan Reference</b> | N/A   |
| <b>Portfolio Holder(s)</b>    | Councillor Boden, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Governance   |
| <b>Report Originator(s)</b>   | Paul Medd – Chief Executive – <a href="mailto:paulmedd@fenland.gov.uk">paulmedd@fenland.gov.uk</a><br>Peter Catchpole, Corporate Director with responsibility for Governance - <a href="mailto:PeterCatchpole@fenland.gov.uk">PeterCatchpole@fenland.gov.uk</a><br>Amy Brown, Head of Legal and Governance and Acting Monitoring Officer – <a href="mailto:amybrown@fenland.gov.uk">amybrown@fenland.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Contact Officer(s)</b>     | Elaine Cooper, Team Leader – Elections, Land charges and Member Services – <a href="mailto:ecooper@fenland.gov.uk">ecooper@fenland.gov.uk</a>   |
| <b>Background papers</b>      | Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017   |

#### **4. COMBINED AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

- 4.1. In accordance with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Order 2017, each Constituent Council must appoint one of its elected members and a substitute member to the Combined Authority. This is normally the Leader. Each Council made these appointments at its respective Council meeting in May 2017 for the 2017/18 municipal year and is requested to do so for each subsequent municipal year. The Council is now asked to appoint a member and substitute member for the municipal year 2022/23.

#### **5. OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

##### **5.1. Non-Executive Committees**

- 5.1.1. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires the Combined Authority to establish an Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an Audit and Governance Committee. The Order sets out the rules for membership.

- 5.1.2. The membership of the Overview and Scrutiny and the Audit and Governance Committees as a whole should reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties of the constituent councils when taken together. The balance is based on membership of political parties, not political groups, on constituent councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

##### **5.1.2.1. Overview & Scrutiny Committee**

- 5.1.2.2. The Combined Authority agreed that to ensure an equitable representation across each constituent authority, two members from each council should be appointed to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee representing a total membership of fourteen members.

- 
- 5.1.2.3. The Council is required to nominate two members to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the municipal year 2022/23 based on the political balance set out in Appendix 1 to this Report (to be tabled).
- 5.1.2.4. **Audit & Governance Committee**
- 5.1.2.5. The Combined Authority agreed to establish an Audit and Governance Committee consisting of seven constituent members: one member from each constituent council.
- 5.1.2.6. The Council is required to nominate one member sit on the Audit and Governance Committee for the municipal year 2022/23 based on the political balance set out in Appendix 2 to this Report (to be tabled).
- 5.1.2.7. **Substitutes**
- 5.1.2.8. The Combined Authority has agreed that substitute members should be appointed for each position on the Audit and Governance Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Any substitute members should come from the same party as the Member they are substituting to maintain political balance.
- 5.1.2.9. For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, if constituent councils have appointed members from the same political parties, those Councils might only wish to appoint one substitute rather than two. The quorum set down in legislation is two thirds of the total membership. Therefore, it is preferable to appoint two members in case both members are absent from a meeting and need to substitute.

## **5.2. Executive Committees**

- 5.2.1. CPCA Board members are also invited, in consultation with the Mayor to make nominations to the executive committees of the Combined Authority which may include (with the exception of the Chair), another member from their constituent council. The Board member shall also nominate a named substitute member. The Council is therefore asked to note the proposed appointments to the Employment, Housing and Communities, Skills, Transport and Infrastructure Committees for the municipal year 2022/23 as set out in the Appendix 3 to this Report (to be tabled).

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### **5.3. Consequential Changes**

- 5.3.1.1. If there are consequential changes to the overall political balance, the Combined Authority may need to review the membership and the allocation of seats to political parties on the above committees. The CPCA's Monitoring Officer will advise constituent councils if any subsequent changes have been necessary, and whether any changes need to be made to their nominations. It is recommended that the Chief Executive is given delegated authority to approve any consequential changes to these appointments in consultation with the relevant group leaders.

### **5.4. CONCLUSION**

- 5.4.1. All appointments and nominations made by constituent councils will be reported to the Combined Authority's annual meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- 5.4.2. The political balance calculations in the Appendices are based on up-to-date statistics given by constituent councils and take account of the outcome of the local elections that took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022. However, there may be last minute changes in the lead up to constituent councils' annual meetings and Combined Authority's annual meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022.
- 5.4.3. If there are consequential changes to the overall political balance, the Combined Authority may need to review the membership and the allocation of seats to political parties on the above committees. The Monitoring Officer will advise constituent councils if any subsequent changes have been necessary, and whether any changes need to be made to their nominations.
- 5.4.4. The Council is requested to delegate powers to the Chief Executive to approve any consequential changes to these appointments in consultation with the relevant group leaders.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

### **6.1. Financial Implications**

In accordance with the CPCA Order 2017, no remuneration is payable by the Combined Authority to its members.

### **6.2. Legal Implications**

The legal implications are set out in the report. The Combined Authorities (Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Access to Information and Audit Committees) Order 2016 requires a combined authority to ensure that the members of the committee taken as a whole reflect so far as reasonably practicable the balance of political parties for the time being prevailing among members of the constituent councils when taken together.

### **6.3. Equalities Implications**



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There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

## **7. APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Overview and Scrutiny Committee political balance calculations.

Appendix 2 – Audit and Governance Committee political balance calculations.

Appendix 3 – proposed nominations to CPCA executive committees.

When tabled, accessible versions of the appendices are available on request from [Democratic.Services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.Services@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk) and/or [memberservices@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:memberservices@fenland.gov.uk).

## Appendix 1

### Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 14 POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 5 May 2022

|                           | Total     | Vacancy  | Conservative | Labour    | Liberal Democrats | Independent | Green    | St. Neots Independent | Total (exc. Ind) | Entitlement      |
|---------------------------|-----------|----------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| CAMBRIDGESHIRE            | 2         |          | 28           | 9         | 20                | 2           |          | 2                     | 59               | 1 Con; 1 Lib Dem |
| CAMBRIDGE CITY            | 2         |          |              | 29        | 9                 | 1           | 3        |                       | 41               | 2 Lab            |
| EAST CAMBS.               | 2         |          | 16           |           | 10                | 2           |          |                       | 26               | 1 Con; 1 Lib Dem |
| FENLAND                   | 2         |          | 27           |           | 2                 | 9           | 1        |                       | 30               | 2 Con            |
| HUNTINGDONSHIRE           | 2         |          | 22           | 4         | 10                | 11          | 1        | 4                     | 41               | 1 Con; 1 Lib Dem |
| PETERBOROUGH              | 2         |          | 28           | 17        | 8                 | 4           | 3        |                       | 56               | 1 Con; 1 Lab     |
| SOUTH CAMBS.              | 2         |          | 8            |           | 37                |             |          |                       | 45               | 2 Lib Dem        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>14</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>129</b>   | <b>59</b> | <b>96</b>         | <b>29</b>   | <b>8</b> | <b>6</b>              | <b>298</b>       |                  |
|                           |           |          |              |           |                   |             |          |                       |                  |                  |
| POLITICAL BALANCE %       |           |          | 43.29        | 19.80     | 32.21             |             | 2.68     | 2.01                  |                  |                  |
| <b>Seat allocation</b>    |           |          | <b>6</b>     | <b>3</b>  | <b>5</b>          | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b>              | <b>14</b>        |                  |
| Committee seat allocation | 14        |          | 6.0606       | 2.772     | 4.5094            | 0           | 0.3752   | 0.2814                |                  |                  |

## Appendix 2


### Audit and Governance Committee of Seven POLITICAL BALANCE ACROSS THE COUNTY as at 5 May 2022

|                           | Total    | Vacancy  | Conservative | Labour    | Liberal Democrats | Independent | Green    | St. Neots Independent | Total (exc. Ind) | Entitlement        |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------|----------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| CAMBRIDGESHIRE            | 1        |          | 28           | 9         | 20                | 2           |          | 2                     | 59               | 1 Liberal Democrat |
| CAMBRIDGE CITY            | 1        |          |              | 29        | 9                 | 1           | 3        |                       | 41               | 1 Labour           |
| EAST CAMBS.               | 1        |          | 16           |           | 10                | 2           |          |                       | 26               | 1 Conservative     |
| FENLAND                   | 1        |          | 27           |           | 2                 | 9           | 1        |                       | 30               | 1 Conservative     |
| HUNTINGDONSHIRE           | 1        |          | 22           | 4         | 10                | 11          | 1        | 4                     | 41               | 1 Conservative     |
| PETERBOROUGH              | 1        |          | 28           | 17        | 8                 | 4           | 3        |                       | 56               | 1 Labour           |
| SOUTH CAMBS.              | 1        |          | 8            |           | 37                |             |          |                       | 45               | 1 Liberal Democrat |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>7</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>129</b>   | <b>59</b> | <b>96</b>         | <b>29</b>   | <b>8</b> | <b>6</b>              | <b>298</b>       |                    |
|                           |          |          |              |           |                   |             |          |                       |                  |                    |
| POLITICAL BALANCE %       |          |          | 43.29        | 19.80     | 32.21             |             | 2.68     | 2.01                  |                  |                    |
| <b>Seat allocation</b>    |          |          | <b>3</b>     | <b>2</b>  | <b>2</b>          | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b>              | <b>7</b>         |                    |
| Committee seat allocation | 7        |          | 3.0303       | 1.386     | 2.2547            | 0           | 0.1876   | 0.1407                |                  |                    |

## Appendix 3

### Proposed Nominations to the CPCA Executive Committees

|   |                   |  |                                   |
|---|-------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| The Combined Authority  | 1 + 1 Substitute  | Cllr Boden<br>Substitute member<br>Cllr Jan French                             | Conservative Party Representation |
| The Combined Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committee        | 2 + 2 Substitutes | Cllr Hay<br>Cllr Miscandlon<br>Substitute members<br>Cllr Tierney<br>1 vacancy | Conservative Party Representation |
| The Combined Authority Audit and Governance Committee         | 1 + 1 Substitute  | Cllr Benney<br>Substitute member<br>Cllr Hoy                                   | Conservative Party Representation |
| The Combined Authority Employment Committee                   | 1 +1 sub          | Cllr Miss French<br>Cllr Mrs Davis (substitute)                                | Conservative Party Representation |
| The Combined Authority Housing and Communities Committee      | 1+1 Sub           | Cllr Boden<br>Cllr Mrs Laws (substitute)                                       | Conservative Party Representation |
| The Combined Authority Transport and Infrastructure Committee | 1+1 Sub           | Cllr Seaton<br>Cllr Boden (substitute)   | Conservative Party Representation |
| The Combined Authority Skills Committee                       | 1+1 Sub           | Cllr Seaton<br>Cllr Mason (substitute)   | Conservative Party Representation |

|                 |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Agenda Item No: | 12   |  |
| Committee:      | Council  |  |
| Date:           | 12 May 2022  |  |
| Report Title:   | PROPOSED INCREASE TO CURRENT HACKNEY CARRIAGE VEHICLE TABLE OF FARES |  |

## 1 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 To adopt the proposed increase of the Hackney Carriage Vehicle Table of Fares.

## 2 Key issues

- 2.1 The Last Table of Fares increase was the 27th June 2019.
- 2.2 Local Authorities have a power to set fares for hackney carriages under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.
- 2.3 Two requests from the Taxi trade for an increase to the Table of Fares were received by email in January 2022, shown as Option A & Option B, these can be seen at **APPENDIX A**.
- 2.4 On the 28th January 2022, the Licensing Committee Chair and Portfolio Holder considered the requests and authorised the Licensing Team to carry out a formal consultation.
- 2.5 Formal consultation was undertaken and ended on 1st April 2022.
- 2.6 The Council received 30 responses to the proposed changes to the taxi tariff as outlined in the Table of Fares
- 2.7 On the 20th April 2022, Licensing Committee met to review and consider the responses received to the proposed increase in the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares. All information relating to the request and the Committee discussion can be found at [Agenda for Licensing Committee on Wednesday, 20th April, 2022, 10.00 am - Fenland District Council](#)
- 2.8 During this meeting, Licensing Committee's view was that the proposed increase of Option A should be recommended to and implemented by Full Council. A copy of this can be found at **APPENDIX B**
- 2.9 However, to be clear the Taxi trade can charge less than this amount if they would like to do so as the proposed charges are discretionary.

## 3 Recommendations

- 3.1 For Council to approve the proposed Table of Fares set out in **Appendix B**, as recommended by the Licensing Committee.

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Wards Affected         | All   |
| Forward Plan Reference |   |
| Portfolio Holder(s)    | Councillor Andrew Lynn, Portfolio holder with responsibilities for licensing <a href="mailto:alynn@fenland.gov.uk">alynn@fenland.gov.uk</a>   |
| Report Originator(s)   | Andy Fox - Senior Licensing & Compliance Officer, 01354 602162, <a href="mailto:afox@fenland.gov.uk">afox@fenland.gov.uk</a>  |
| Contact Officer(s)     | <p>Dan Horn, Head of Housing &amp; Community Support, 01354 654321, <a href="mailto:dhorn@fenland.gov.uk">dhorn@fenland.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Michelle Bishop, Licensing Manager, 01354 602542, <a href="mailto:mbishop@fenland.gov.uk">mbishop@fenland.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Amy Brown, Head of Legal, 01354 654321 <a href="mailto:abrown@fenland.gov.uk">abrown@fenland.gov.uk</a></p> |
| Background Paper(s)    | Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976 Part Two   |

## 1 Background and Intended Outcomes

- 1.1 The Council has 134 Licensed Drivers; 93 of these are Hackney Carriage Drivers.
- 1.2 The fare structure currently in place was set by Licensing Committee on 27th June 2019 and shows 3 tariffs set for vehicles carrying a maximum of 4 passengers. There is an extra charge in place on this tariff for each person in excess of 4 passengers. This equates to 0.30p per person to a maximum of £1.20.

The current tariff is at **APPENDIX C**

- 1.3 On 20th April 2022 Licensing Committee determined that Option A was the most appropriate of the two proposals presented. A copy of the proposed tariff comprised in Option A can be found at **APPENDIX B**.

All information relating to the request and the Committee discussion can be found at [Agenda for Licensing Committee on Wednesday, 20th April, 2022, 10.00 am - Fenland District Council](#)

- 1.4 The Licensing Team received 30 responses which represents a 22.38% response from the trade to the proposed options for Tariff increases with 13 voting for Option A, 15 for Option B and 2 votes for no increase - a redacted copy of the responses is attached as **APPENDIX D**
- 1.5 It is at the discretion of the Council as the Licensing Authority to set a Table of Fares for licensed Hackney Carriages operating within the district if it chooses to do so.
- 1.6 The Private Hire and Taxi Monthly (PHTM), a national taxi trade publication, produces a monthly league table of all UK Council hackney carriage fares. This league table shows that Fenland District Council's current "fare tariff 1", for a 2-mile journey, sits in 305th place out of 358 licensing authorities listed. This is for the current tariff.

| Local Authority      | 2-mile fare<br>- £ | Last<br>Increase | Ranked out<br>of 358 |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Cambridge City       | 6.6                | 2019             | 71                   |
| South Cambs          | 6.6                | 2019             | 85                   |
| Huntingdonshire      | 6.5                | 2019             | 91                   |
| South Holland        | 6.3                | 2019             | 131                  |
| East Cambs           | 6.2                | 2018             | 141                  |
| Kings Lynn and<br>WN | 6                  | 2019             | 185                  |
| Breckland            | 5.6                | 2015             | 261                  |
| Fenland DC           | 5.3                | 2019             | 305                  |
| Peterborough         | 6                  | 2022             | 188                  |

- 1.7 Councils are not obliged to set a maximum fare for their area, they could decide instead to rely on market forces to establish the going rate and at the same time promote competition. Comparisons with neighbouring authorities have taken place and are shown below.
- 1.8 The tariff does not apply to private hire drivers who set their own fares, via market forces, without Council involvement.

## **2 Legal Considerations**

- 2.1 The authority for the Council to fix fares for hackney carriages is given under Section 65 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976.

## **3 Equality Implications**

- 3.1 The Licensing Committee will ensure it has regard to the desirability of exercising its functions with regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and to increase equality of opportunity.

## **4 Social, Environmental and Economic Implications**

- 4.1 This report has set out two options for Member's consideration and has acknowledged the increased costs that the taxi trade has faced in the last twelve months in particular on the back of the COVID-19 Pandemic which devastated the demand for taxis, particularly during periods of lockdown.

Any decision to increase taxi fares therefore would have a positive impact on the taxi trade, primarily economically.

- 4.2 In addition, the report has identified the balance that is required to be struck by supporting our taxi trade and not exposing users of taxis to such an increase in fares, that would lead to journeys becoming too expensive, thus having social implications linked to a lack of social mobility, and economic implications by additional money having to be spent on transport.
- 4.3 Members should note that the tariff is the maximum permitted fare that can be charged, and that vehicle proprietors can choose to charge less should they wish. The tariff is only applicable to Hackney Carriages, and not Private Hire Vehicles.

## **5 Conclusions**

- 5.1 That Council approve the increase in the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares.

## **6 Schedules**

- 6.1 Appendix A - Options A & B  
Appendix B - Proposed New Tariff  
Appendix C - Current Tariff  
Appendix D - Redacted Responses



## HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES

### For licensed vehicles fitted with a 'Taximeter'

In response to representations from Hackney Carriage proprietors and in accordance with Section 65 of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Fenland District Council proposes to revise the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares, as follows:

| <b>TABLE OF FARES</b><br><b>FARES FOR DISTANCE</b><br>(inclusive of VAT)<br>For vehicles carrying no more than<br><b>8 Passengers</b>   | <b>Current</b>                                      | <b>Proposed Option A</b>  | <b>Proposed Option B</b>      |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Tariff 1: Between 07:00 – 23:00</b><br><b>Mon – Sat inclusive</b><br><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof                       | <b>Pence</b><br><br>£3.30<br><br>£3.30<br><br>£0.20 | £4.00<br><br>£4.00<br><br>£0.20<br>For each subsequent 146.2m (1/11 mile) or part thereof   | £3.70<br><br>£3.70<br><br>25p |
| <b>Tariff 2: Between 23:00 – 07:00</b><br><b>Mon – Sat inclusive &amp; all-day Sundays</b><br><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof | £4.90<br><br>£4.90<br><br>£0.30                     | £6.00<br><br>£6.00<br><br>£0.30<br>For each subsequent 146.2m (1/11 mile) or part thereof   | No Change                     |
| <b>Tariff 3: for Public bank Holidays including Christmas, New Year Period</b><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof                 | £6.60<br><br>£6.60<br><br>£0.40                     | Tariff 3 to come into force from 18:00 Hrs Christmas eve and New Years Eve<br>£8.00<br><br>£8.00<br><br>£0.40<br>For each subsequent 146.2m (1/11 mile) or part thereof | No Change                     |
| <b>Waiting Time</b><br>For each period of 114.2 seconds or part thereof   | £0.40   | No Change   | No Change                     |
| <b>Extra Charges:</b><br>For each person carried in excess of four (two children under 16 years old shall count as one person and children under the age of 3 years shall not be counted)   | £0.30<br><br>(Maximum charge of £1.20)              | £0.50<br><br>(Maximum charge of £2.00)  | No Change                     |
| <b>Extra Charges: not calculated by taximeter</b><br>For persons soiling the carriage resulting in cleaning of vehicle, the maximum sum of  | £80.00  | No Change   | No Change                     |

### HACKNEY CARRIAGE TABLE OF FARES For licensed vehicles fitted with a 'Taximeter'

In response to representations from Hackney Carriage proprietors and in accordance with Section 65 of Part II of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, Fenland District Council proposes to revise the Hackney Carriage Table of Fares, as follows:

| <b>TABLE OF FARES</b><br><b>FARES FOR DISTANCE</b><br>(inclusive of VAT)<br>For vehicles carrying no more than<br><b>8 Passengers</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Tariff 1: Between 07:00 – 23:00</b><br><b>Mon – Sat inclusive</b><br><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 146.2m (1/11 mile) or part thereof  | £4.00<br><br><br>£4.00<br><br>£0.20    |
| <b>Tariff 2: Between 23:00 – 07:00</b><br><b>Mon – Sat inclusive &amp; all-day Sundays</b><br><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 146.2m (1/11 mile) or part thereof                  | £6.00<br><br>£6.00<br><br>£0.30        |
| <b>Tariff 3: to come into force from 18:00hrs for Public bank Holidays including Christmas, New Year Period</b><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 146.2m (1/11 mile) or part thereof | £8.00<br><br>£8.00<br><br>£0.40        |
| <b>Waiting Time</b><br>For each period of 114.2 seconds or part thereof  | No Change                              |
| <b>Extra Charges:</b><br>For each person carried in excess of four (two children under 16 years old shall count as one person and children under the age of 3 years shall not be counted)  | £0.50<br><br>(Maximum charge of £2.00) |
| <b>Extra Charges: not calculated by taximeter</b><br>For persons soiling the carriage resulting in cleaning of vehicle, the maximum sum of   | No Change                              |


| <b>TABLE OF FARES</b><br><br><b>FARES FOR DISTANCE</b><br>(inclusive of VAT)<br><br>For vehicles carrying a maximum of<br>8 Passengers   |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Tariff 1: Between 07:00 – 23:00 hour</b><br><b>Mon – Sat inclusive</b><br><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof                       | <b>Pence</b><br><br>£3.30<br><br>£3.30<br><br>£0.20 |
| <b>Tariff 2: Between 23:00 – 07:00 hour</b><br><b>Mon – Sat inclusive &amp; all day Sundays</b><br><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof | £4.90<br><br>£4.90<br><br>£0.30                     |
| <b>Tariff 3: for Public Bank Holidays including Christmas, New Year Period</b><br><br>If the distance does not exceed 1609m (one mile) for the whole distance<br><br>If a distance exceeds 1609m (one mile), first 1609m (one mile)<br><br>For each subsequent 160.9m (1/10 mile) or part thereof                  | £6.60<br><br>£6.60<br><br>£0.40                     |
| <b>Waiting Time</b><br><br>For each period of 114.2 seconds or part thereof  | £0.40   |
| <b>Extra Charges:</b><br><br>For each person carried in excess of four (two children under 16 years old shall count as one person and children under the age of 3 years shall not be counted)  | £0.20<br><br>(Maximum charge of £0.80)              |
| <b>Extra Charges: not calculated by taximeter</b><br><br>For persons soiling the carriage resulting in cleaning of vehicle, the maximum sum of   | £80.00  |

By Order 27 June 2019

Paul Medd, Chief Executive

## APPENDIX D

| Date received | No Change to Current Tariff: | In favour with Option A: | Against Option A: | In favour with Option B: | Against Option B: | Additional Comments  |
|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--|
| 18.02.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   |  |
| 20.02.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   | Thank you for your email I will resubmit another one. However I do agree with the first one I think having an increase from 6 pm would help get drivers to do the shift  |
| 24.02.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   | I have no problem with these increases although I would like to see waiting time more than what it is  |
| 02.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   |  |
| 04.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   |  |
| 10.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 11.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 12.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 13.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   | I agree with tariff change A Reason being, increass in costs over the last few years I.E. fuel, servicing, tyre's, council fees (again) Also tariff has not changed for many years   |
| 14.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 14.03.2022    |                              |                          | X                 | X                        |                   |  |
| 14.03.2022    |                              |                          | X                 | X                        |                   |  |
| 14.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 14.03.2022    |                              |                          | X                 | X                        |                   |  |
| 14.03.2022    |                              |                          | X                 | X                        |                   |  |
| 17.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   | I believe with fuel and council costs increasing there is a definate need for an increase.   |
| 17.03.2022    |                              | XX                       |                   |                          |                   |  |
| 22.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   | I would suggest that the change should be a combination of option A and option B. Start at £4.00 and subsequent being £0.25  |
| 24.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   |  |
| 28.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 28.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 28.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   | X                        |                   | I'm for all your proposals long overdue  |
| 28.03.2022    | X                            |                          |                   |                          |                   | In today climate I am against increasing the fare for taxis.   |
| 28.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   |                          |                   | Afternoon as I am unable to select which option I think would be best for our trade I'm in favour of option B I think it's fair as there hasn't bin a rise for a number of years. Ins over a 1000 a year now fuel nearly doubled since last fare increase as has general cost of running a vehicle |
| 28.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   |  |
| 28.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   | I think it would be better in the light of fuel prices to have a £4.00 start and then 25 pence per 1/11 of a mile .  |
| 29.03.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   |  |
| 31.03.2022    |                              | X                        |                   |                          |                   | If the fuel remains high then option A must be considered.   |
| 01.04.2022    |                              |                          |                   | X                        |                   | With the rising cost of living an current fuel prices, there needs to be a rise also the fact the trade has not had a rise in numerous years why is it always left so long then looks like it goes up a lot. Tarrif 2 should also go up in line with option B                                      |
| 01.04.2022    | X                            |                          |                   |                          |                   | In Favour of all   |

|                 |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Agenda Item No: | 13   |  |
| Committee:      | Council  |  |
| Date:           | 12 May 2022  |  |
| Report Title:   | Council Consultation Response in relation to the Fenland Electoral Review - Proposed Future Warding Arrangements |  |

## 1 Purpose / Summary

- For Members to consider and agree the formal Council consultation submission in relation to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) Electoral Review of Fenland District Council. This report forms the Council's response to the final part of the electoral review process regarding the proposed future warding arrangements, including future ward boundaries, number of elected representatives per ward and future ward names.

## 2 Key issues

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body established by Parliament in April 2010. One of its objectives is to work with principal local authorities to help them deliver effective and convenient local government to citizens. Every year, the LGBCE assesses electorate data for each local authority in England with the intention to intervene where "significant" electoral inequality exists. As a result the LGBCE intervention would be in the form of an electoral review should significant electoral inequality have been identified.
- An electoral review is an examination of a council's electoral arrangements. This means:
  - the total number of members to be elected to the council;
  - the number and boundaries of electoral areas (wards / divisions) for the purposes of the election of councillors;
  - the number of councillors for any electoral area of a local authority; and
  - the name of any electoral area.
- During the Annual Council meeting in May 2021, Full Council agreed to approach the LGBCE to commence an Electoral Review of Fenland District Council given the predicted electoral inequality that would be apparent by the next round of all out elections in 2023. The LGBCE subsequently agreed to this request and Fenland was added to the Electoral Review Programme.
- The LGBCE then subsequently made a request to the District Council to submit a proposal regarding the future total number of Councillors to be elected to the Council, known as Council Size. Considerations regarding the future Council size form the initial part of the electoral review process
- During the September 2021 Council meeting, Members agreed that a proposal should be submitted to the LGBCE that the future Council size should contain 42 elected representatives. In addition, Members were also asked to note the following principles to help inform the second stage of the electoral review process, regarding future warding arrangements and the formulation of future ward boundaries:

- No ward should have an electoral variance greater than 10.00%
- No Parish Council Area should be split between two different wards
- Where unavoidable whilst adhering to the first two rules, a Parish Council Area may be joined with part of an adjoining Town Council Area in a single ward (as we have now with Benwick, Coates & Eastrea Ward).
- The LGBCE Commissioners met to discuss the Council Size proposal and later confirmed they were minded to support the suggestion of 42 Members. Members were advised that the LGBCE Commissioners 'minded to' decision reflects the Commission's intentions as to the future council size for Fenland, not its final decision. The Commission are prepared, during the course of the review, to consider whether it might be necessary to change the proposed number of councillors slightly to achieve better levels of electoral representation across the authority area.
- On 26 October the LGBCE commenced the public consultation process in relation to the formal second stage of the electoral review process, namely the formulation of the new district ward boundaries, seeking consultation submissions regarding where the new boundaries should be. This initial round of public consultation concluded on 10 January 2022.
- On 29 March 2022 the LGBCE published The Draft Recommendations report in relation to future electoral arrangements across Fenland including where future district ward boundaries should be located. Publication of the LGBCE draft recommendations initiated the second round of public consultation in relation to the electoral review, which runs for a ten week period from 29 March to 06 June 2022. The LGBCE will published its final recommendations report on 06 September 2022 and that report will define the future Fenland electoral arrangements which will be implemented during the 2023 'All Out' local Government elections.
- Fenland District Council decided that it would seek to put forward its own proposals at each stage of the LGBCE review project, to be ratified by Full Council. As a result the District Council formulated a cross party Member Working Group to lead the Council through the LGBCE process. The Member Working Group was informed by a series of member Focus Groups based on geographical which involved all 39 Councillors.
- The cross party Member Working Group was convened to consider the current and future district warding arrangements including specific warding options informed by the Member Focus Groups. The Member Focus Groups have played a key role in identifying and refining warding options within the extensive consultation which has been carried out as part of this stage of the project.
- Following conclusion of the workshops, the Member Working Group considered a number of issues and various proposals to address them. The primary issue raised was in relation to the previously proposed Benwick, Christchurch, Doddington and Wimblington ward and whether the proposed new ward could effectively satisfy the LGBCE criteria in respect of Effective and Convenient Local Government.
- The Member Working Group agreed to recommend to Full Council that the final Council submission is to formulate 18 District Council Wards representing 42 District Councillors. As a result, the average number of electors per councillor changes to 2046.
- The Member Working Group supports the proposed LGBCE warding arrangement in relation to 13 of the proposed future District wards including
  - Chatteris North and Manea
  - Chatteris South
  - Elm and Wisbech St Mary

- Parson Drove and Roman Bank
  - Whittlesey East and Villages
  - Whittlesey Lattersey
  - Whittlesey North West
  - Whittlesey South
  - Wisbech Leverington
  - Wisbech North
  - Wisbech Riverside
  - Wisbech South
  - Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees
- Members of the Working Group propose alternative solutions for the remaining 5 District wards including the following
    - Doddington and Wimblington
    - March East and Christchurch
    - March North
    - March South
    - March West and Benwick
- The Member Working Group agreed that the revised scheme achieved the optimum level of electoral equality, with electoral variants of within +/- 10% from the average number of elected representatives per elector, whilst also being the most credible in terms of the other LGBCE statutory criteria, Communities of Interest and Effective and Convenient Local Government.

### **3 Recommendations**

- To consider and agree the revised proposals as outlined in the report which will result in 18 District Council Wards representing 42 District Councillors. As a result, the average number of electors per councillor will be 2046.
- For Members to consider and endorse the LGBCE proposed future district warding arrangements in relation to
  - Chatteris North and Manea
  - Chatteris South
  - Elm and Wisbech St Mary
  - Parson Drove and Roman Bank
  - Whittlesey East and Villages
  - Whittlesey Lattersey
  - Whittlesey North West
  - Whittlesey South
  - Wisbech Leverington
  - Wisbech North

- Wisbech Riverside
- Wisbech South
- Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees

To consider and agree the revised proposals as outlined in the report in relation to

- Doddington and Wimblington
  - March East and Christchurch
  - March North
  - March South
  - March West and Benwick
- 
- To delegate to Officers to formally submit the Council consultation submission to the LGBCE for consideration by the deadline of 06 June 2022.

|                        |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Wards Affected         | All   |  |
| Forward Plan Reference | N/A   |  |
| Portfolio Holder(s)    | Member Working Group:<br>Cllr Chris Boden<br>Cllr Jan French<br>Cllr Steve Tierney<br>Cllr Sam Hoy<br>Cllr Ian Benney<br>Cllr Will Sutton<br>Cllr Gavin Booth |  |
| Report Originator(s)   | Paul Medd - Chief Executive<br>Peter catchpole Corporate Director<br>Anna Goodall - Acting Assistant Director   |  |
| Contact Officer(s)     | Paul Medd - Chief Executive<br>Peter Catchpole - Corporate Director<br>Anna Goodall - Acting Assistant Director   |  |



|                     |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|
| Background Paper(s) | <p>Full Council Paper - Electoral Review for Fenland District Council - 19/05/21</p> <p>Full Council Paper - Fenland Electoral Review - Council Size Report - 30/09/21</p> <p>Full Council paper - Fenland Electoral Review - Future Warding Arrangements 08/12/21</p> |  |
|---------------------|--|--|

**DISTRICT OF FENLAND**  
**REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS**  
**FENLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE LGBCE**  
**DRAFT FUTURE DISTRICT WARDING PROPOSALS**

## INTRODUCTION

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) is an independent body established by Parliament in April 2010. One of its objectives is to work with principal local authorities to help them deliver effective and convenient local government to citizens. Every year, the LGBCE assesses electorate data for each local authority in England with the intention to intervene where “significant” electoral inequality exists. As a result the LGBCE intervention would be in the form of an electoral review should significant electoral inequality have been identified.
- An electoral review is an examination of a council’s electoral arrangements. This means:
  - the total number of members to be elected to the council;
  - the number and boundaries of electoral areas (wards / divisions) for the purposes of the election of councillors;
  - the number of councillors for any electoral area of a local authority; and
  - the name of any electoral area.
- During the Annual Council meeting in May 2021, Full Council agreed to approach the LGBCE to commence an Electoral Review of Fenland District Council given the predicted electoral inequality that would be apparent by the next round of all out elections in 2023. The LGBCE subsequently agreed to this request and Fenland was added to the Electoral Review Programme.
- The LGBCE then subsequently made a request to the District Council to submit a proposal regarding the future total number of Councillors to be elected to the Council, known as Council Size. Considerations regarding the future Council size form the initial part of the electoral review process
- During the September 2021 Council meeting, the majority of Members agreed that a proposal should be submitted to the LGBCE that the future Council size should contain 42 elected representatives. In addition, Members were also asked to note the following principles to help inform the second stage of the electoral review process, regarding future warding arrangements and the formulation of future ward boundaries:
  - No ward should have an electoral variance greater than 10.00%
  - No Parish Council Area should be split between two different wards
  - Where unavoidable whilst adhering to the first two rules, a Parish Council Area may be joined with part of an adjoining

Town Council Area in a single ward (as we have now with Benwick, Coates & Eastrea Ward).

- The LGBCE Commissioners met to discuss the Council Size proposal and later confirmed they were minded to support the suggestion of 42 Members. Members were advised that the LGBCE Commissioners 'minded to' decision reflects the Commission's intentions as to the future council size for Fenland, not its final decision. The Commission are prepared, during the course of the review, to consider whether it might be necessary to change the proposed number of councillors slightly to achieve better levels of electoral representation across the authority area.
- On 26 October the LGBCE commenced the public consultation process in relation to the formal second stage of the electoral review process, namely the formulation of the new district ward boundaries, seeking consultation submissions regarding where the new boundaries should be. This initial round of public consultation concluded on 10 January 2022.
- Fenland District Council devised a comprehensive future electoral proposal, which was submitted to the LGBCE in January 2022. The review of electoral arrangements for the District was led by a cross party Member Working Group, who were extremely keen to engage with all Members representing each of the current 24 district wards.
- The resulting scheme arising from Member engagement and consultation activities was robust, well considered, effectively reflected the LGBCE criteria and the needs of the Community we represent whilst also ensuring the Council can operate effectively and to the highest standards.
- At the 08 December 2021 meeting, the majority of members of Full Council endorsed the warding arrangements that supported a future Full Council size of 42 elected representatives for 17 District wards and agreed this should be the scheme submitted to the LGBCE as the formal Fenland District Council electoral review consultation submission.
- On 29 March 2022 the LGBCE published the Draft Recommendations Report outlining the proposed new Electoral Arrangements for Fenland District Council. The publication of the report initiated the second and final round of public consultation, seeking comments in relation to the draft proposals for future ward boundaries reflecting a future Council size of 42 elected representatives. The current round of public consultation closes on 06 June 2022. This completes the standard approach to public consultation in relation to the electoral review (although the LGBCE reserve the right for a third round of consultation should it be necessary), as following this process the LGBCE will publish the final warding scheme for Fenland on 06 September 2022. It is the final recommendation report which will be implemented following the 2023 'all out' local elections.

- The District Council are delighted that the majority of our initial consultation submission has been endorsed by the LGBCE and as such reflected within the current draft future warding proposals. This is further testimony to the robust nature of the original submission.
- Members of the District Council have however raised some concerns about the scale of the previously proposed ward which encompassed Benwick, Christchurch, Doddington and Wimblington. The concerns centred around the ability of this proposal to fully satisfy the LGBCE criteria in respect of Effective and Convenient Local Government due to the proposed ward covering such a wide spread geographic area, particularly as the new ward is proposed to cross the entire width of the district from East to West. Whilst it is appreciated this proposal was initiated by the District Council, given the concerns raised, the Member Working Group have identified an alternative solution that better satisfies all three of the LGBCE Electoral Review criteria balancing Electoral Equality with Communities of Interest whilst also satisfying Effective and Convenient Local Government.
- The proposed solution is to introduce new district warding arrangements in this area that reflect former County Council electoral divisions that include the parishes of Benwick and Christchurch in March District wards.

## REVIEW PROCESS

- From the point the review was announced the Council was clear that it wished to respond fully at each stage, as a result, strong project management and governance arrangements have been put in place.
- A cross party Member Working Group was established to steer the development of Fenland District Council's response. The group comprised 7 District Councillors (5 Councillors from the Conservative Group, 2 Councillors from the Fenland Independent Alliance, the group was chaired by the Leader of the District Council). The Working Group signed off the approach and draft proposals that were shared with the wider Member focus groups for consultation.
- A series of Member focus groups took place which comprised of all district councillors, however the groups were facilitated on an area basis in order to discuss detail of specific settlements. These discussions formed the basis of the revised warding proposals. Members who were not able to attend any of the 4 focus group meetings which took place, were asked to submit any comments electronically. This approach was taken in order to maximize member engagement and participation, eliciting their expertise and knowledge of the local area and the communities they serve.
- The Member focus group meetings focused on the LGBCE draft warding proposals and considered district council ward boundaries within each of town boundaries and key settlement affiliations, these discussions enabled the revised draft district warding scheme to be designed. The Member Working Group subsequently sanctioned the progress of the

warding arrangements to be put before Full Council for consideration prior to submission to the LGBCE.

- An officer project team managed the day to day work streams relating to the review and comprised of key officers from the District Council.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Fenland District Council's proposal for the future warding arrangements of the District has considered and addressed the LGBCE criteria of:
  - Electoral equality
  - Effective and convenient local government
  - Community identity
- The level of member consultation and engagement has been extensive and comprehensive, resulting in a revised proposed, differing from our initial proposals which the Council believes best reflects the LGBCE criteria, the needs of the community we represent and to ensure the Council can operate effectively and to the highest standards.
- Fenland District Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the draft future district warding proposals put forward by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.
- This report outlines Fenland District Council's response to the draft recommendations proposed by the LGBCE.
- The main points of the District Council submission are as follows;
  - The District Council fully supports the proposed warding arrangement in relation to 13 of the proposed future District wards
    - Chatteris North and Manea
    - Chatteris South
    - Elm and Wisbech St Mary
    - Parson Drove and Roman Bank
    - Whittlesey East and Villages
    - Whittlesey Lattersey
    - Whittlesey North West
    - Whittlesey South
    - Wisbech Leverington
    - Wisbech North
    - Wisbech Riverside
    - Wisbech South
    - Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees

- Due to the concerns raised in relation to the scale of the previously proposed ward which encompassed Benwick, Christchurch, Doddington and Wimblington and issues centring around the ability of this proposal to fully satisfy the LGBCE criteria in respect of Effective and Convenient Local Government. This has resulted in Members wishing to reconsider and propose alternative solutions for the remaining 5 District wards including the following
  - Doddington and Wimblington
  - March East and Christchurch
  - March North
  - March South
  - March West and Benwick
- Members are firmly of the conviction the revised proposals will satisfy the LGBCE criteria including achieving electoral equality, maintaining communities of interest in addition to enabling convenient and effective Local Government.
- Members also recognise that the proposed changes to the wards relating to the March area of the district enable the strongest possible geographical boundaries to be utilised including the River Nene and the A 141, therefore ensuring these areas are clearly distinct and recognisable by the electorate they serve.
- The final Council submission is to formulate 18 District Council Wards representing 42 District Councillors. As a result, the average number of electors per councillor changes to 2046.
- The key factors in ensuring the LGBCE criteria have been met include:
  - Ward sizes have been determined with a range of criteria to ensure they are compact, reflect the geographical features of the area, the community facilities, community identity and the electorate size.
  - Electoral equality has been achieved and are within the LGBCE tolerance of +/- 10%.
  - Where possible we have utilised existing parishes as building blocks for the proposed warding arrangements
  - Communication networks within wards are effective and there are no major barriers within wards
  - The mixture of single, dual and three member wards ensures accountability, reflect communities whilst also ensuring ease of access to elected representatives.
  - The structure and arrangements are understandable and meet the objectives of the review without diluting the benefits of the current structure.
  - As part of the warding review the Working Group and Focus Groups have considered ward names. The agreement reached

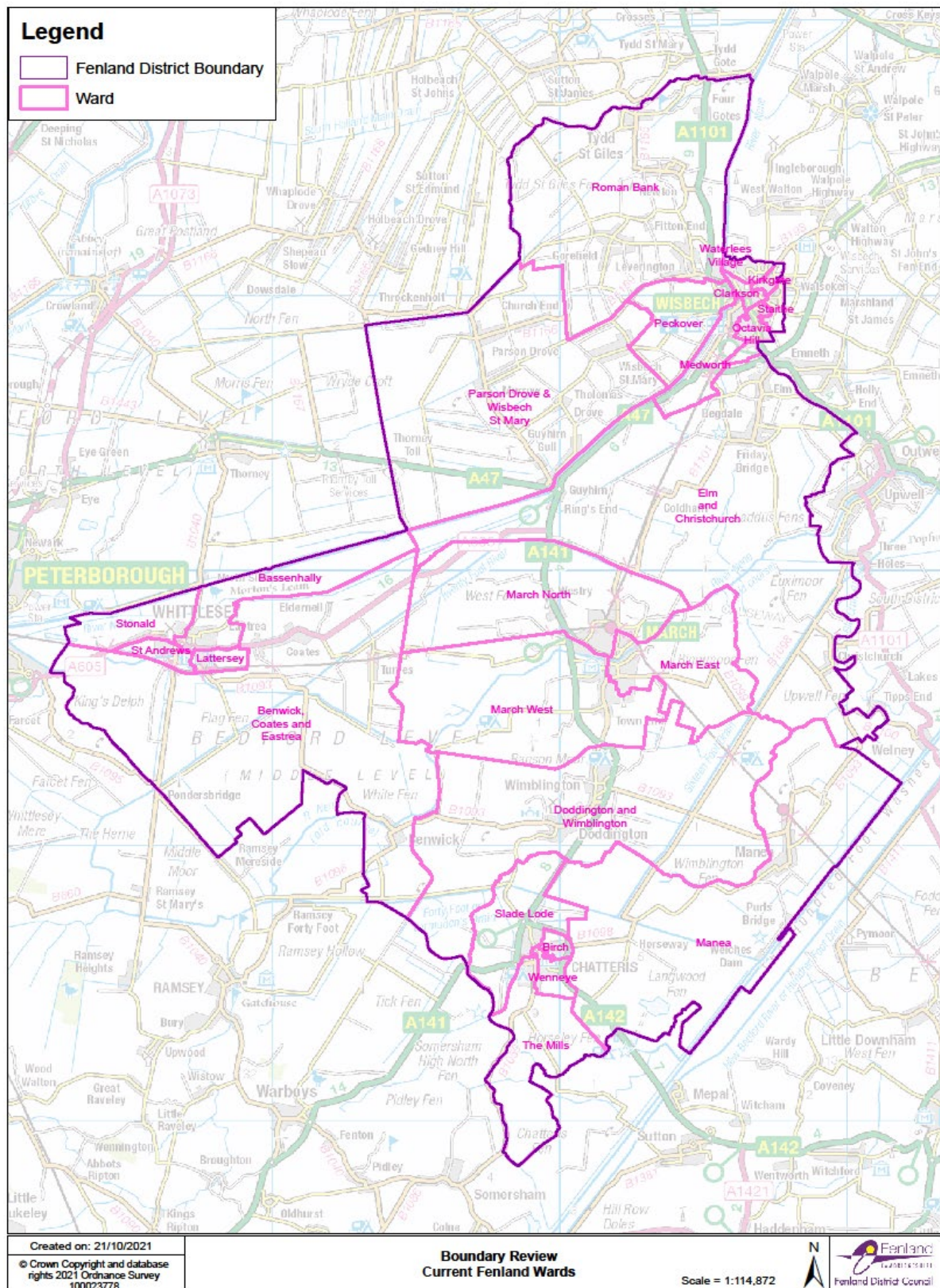
was a principle that where there is coterminosity between District and Parish ward boundaries the proposed District and Parish ward names should be the same, however where there are no coterminous boundaries and boundaries differ, then names for District and Parish wards should be different. Both the Focus and Working Group felt this approach would provide greater clarity for the local electorate and prevent potential confusion.



**CURRENT AND FORECAST FUTURE ELECTORATE BY WARD - 2021  
- 2027 ELECTORAL FIGURES**

| Name of ward                        | Number of<br>cllrs per<br>ward | Electorate<br>2021 | Variance<br>2021 | Electorate<br>2027 | Variance<br>2027 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
|                                     |                                |                    |                  |                    |                  |
| Birch                               | 1                              | 2,316              | 18%              | 2,433              | 10%              |
| Slade Lode                          | 1                              | 2,069              | 5%               | 2,305              | 5%               |
| The Mills                           | 1                              | 2,281              | 16%              | 2,560              | 16%              |
| Wenneye                             | 1                              | 1,760              | -11%             | 2,963              | 34%              |
| March East                          | 3                              | 5,836              | -1%              | 5,941              | -10%             |
| March North                         | 3                              | 5,568              | -6%              | 5,957              | -10%             |
| March West                          | 3                              | 5,795              | -2%              | 7,348              | 11%              |
| Benwick Coates<br>and Eastrea       | 2                              | 3,631              | -8%              | 3,861              | -12%             |
| Bassenhally                         | 2                              | 4,303              | 9%               | 5,074              | 15%              |
| Lattersey                           | 1                              | 2,166              | 10%              | 2,835              | 29%              |
| St Andrews                          | 1                              | 2,056              | 4%               | 2,128              | -3%              |
| Stonald                             | 1                              | 2,299              | 17%              | 2,445              | 11%              |
| Clarkson                            | 1                              | 1,768              | -10%             | 1,942              | -12%             |
| Octavia Hill                        | 2                              | 4,010              | 2%               | 4,354              | -1%              |
| Kirkgate                            | 1                              | 1,918              | -3%              | 2,015              | -9%              |
| Medworth                            | 1                              | 1,971              | 0%               | 2,134              | -3%              |
| Peckover                            | 1                              | 1,800              | -9%              | 1,965              | -11%             |
| Staithe                             | 1                              | 1,947              | -1%              | 2,468              | 12%              |
| Waterlees Village                   | 2                              | 3,907              | -1%              | 3,894              | -12%             |
| Doddington and<br>Wimblington       | 2                              | 3,831              | -3%              | 4,314              | -2%              |
| Elm and<br>Christchurch             | 2                              | 3,838              | -3%              | 4,136              | -6%              |
| Manea                               | 1                              | 2,114              | 7%               | 2,378              | 8%               |
| Parson Drove and<br>Wisbech St Mary | 2                              | 4,188              | 6%               | 4,567              | 4%               |
| Roman Bank                          | 3                              | 5,437              | -8%              | 5,927              | -10%             |
|                                     |                                |                    |                  |                    |                  |
| Totals                              | 39                             |                    |                  |                    |                  |

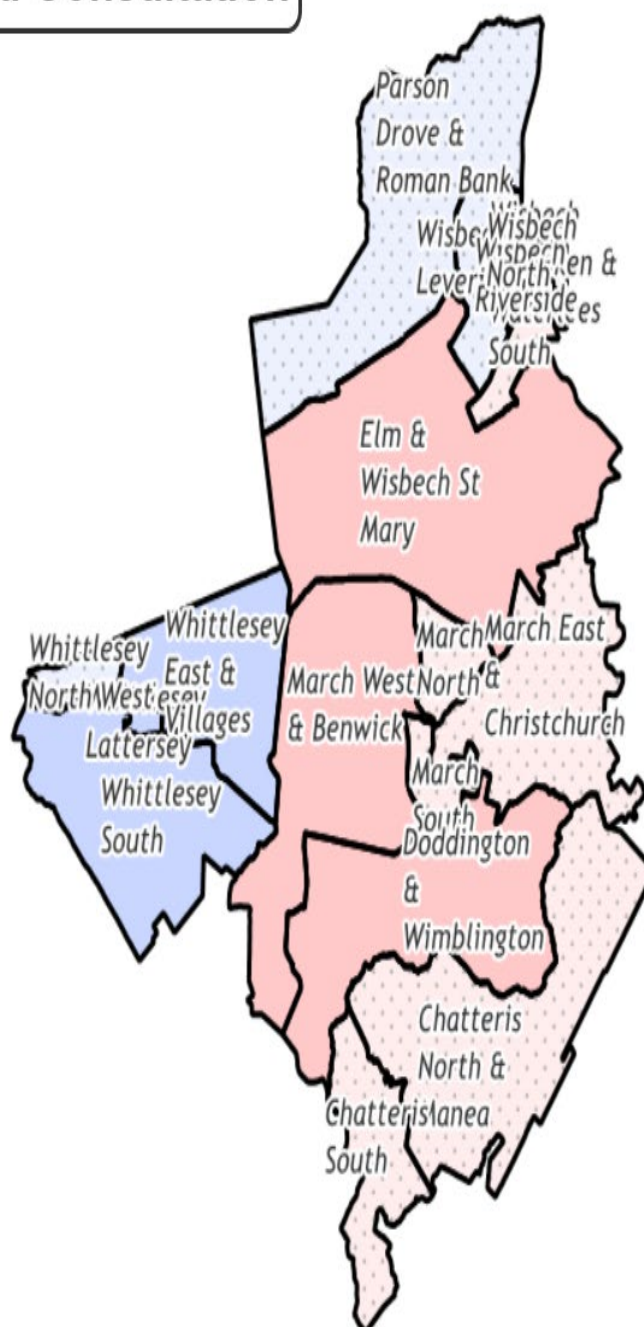
## EXISTING WARDING ARRANGEMENTS



## PROPOSED DISTRICT WARDING ARRANGEMENTS

Scenario:

### New Council Scheme 2nd Consultation



## PROPOSED NEW WARDING ARRANGEMENTS

| <b>New Ward</b>                | <b>Number of Councillors to be Elected</b> | <b>2027 Electorate</b> | <b>Average Number of Electors per Councillor using the 2027 electorate</b> | <b>Variance from the 2,046 average number of electors per councillor</b> |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|--|
| Chatteris North and Manea      | 3  | 6336                   | 2138   | +3.2%  |
| Chatteris South                | 3  | 6303                   | 2101   | +2.7%  |
| Doddington and Wimblington     | 2  | 4312                   | 2156   | +5.4%  |
| Elm and Wisbech St Mary        | 3  | 6731                   | 2244   | +9.6%  |
| March East and Christchurch    | 3  | 6166                   | 2055   | +0.4%  |
| March North                    | 3  | 6194                   | 2065   | +0.9%  |
| March South                    | 2  | 4137                   | 2069   | +1.1%  |
| March West and Benwick         | 2  | 4404                   | 2202   | +7.6%  |
| Parson Drove and Roman Bank    | 2  | 3912                   | 1956   | -4.4%  |
| Whittlesey East and Villages   | 3  | 5800                   | 1933   | -5.5%  |
| Whittlesey Lattersey           | 1  | 1942                   | 1942   | -5.1%  |
| Whittlesey North West          | 2  | 3940                   | 1970   | -3.7%  |
| Whittlesey South               | 2  | 3792                   | 1896   | -7.3%  |
| Wisbech Leverington            | 2  | 4026                   | 2013   | -1.6%  |
| Wisbech North                  | 1  | 1968                   | 1968   | -3.8%  |
| Wisbech Riverside              | 2  | 3884                   | 1942   | -5.1%  |
| Wisbech South                  | 3  | 6157                   | 2052   | +0.3%  |
| Wisbech Walsoken and Waterlees | 3  | 5940                   | 1980   | -3.2%  |



## **CHATTERIS TOWN AND MANEA SUMMARY**

The District Council recognises the fact the LGBCE endorsed the original District submission for Chatteris and Manea without amendment. The proposal will result in two three-councillor wards of Chatteris North & Manea and Chatteris South.

Chatteris North & Manea as proposed will comprise of the existing Birch ward, the existing Manea ward (coterminous with Manea parish) and the northern part of the existing Slade Lode ward. Chatteris South as proposed will comprise of the existing wards named The Mills and Wenneye as well as the southern part of Slade Lode ward. The Council agree that the proposed warding arrangement will fulfil all three of the LGBCE electoral review criteria in equal measure including electoral equality, communities of interest in addition to effective and convenient Local Government.

This will result in the existing parish ward of Slade Lode being split in two, at the point the proposed new District ward crosses the parish. As such this will create an additional parish ward within the town of Chatteris. The Council have noted and fully agree with this inclusion and in addition agree the proposed names for the revised parish wards in this area in accordance with the LGBCE draft recommendations.

## WARD PROFILE - DODDINGTON AND WIMBLINGTON – TWO MEMBER WARD

- **2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 4312 VARIANCE +5.4%**

### ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

The streets include the whole of the current Doddington and Wimblington Parishes.

#### Doddington Parish Streets

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Ancaster Way                               |   |
| Beech Avenue                               |   |
| Beezling Fen Drove, Doddington & Chatteris | Barrots Farm House, Beezlings Farm, Ivydene |
| Benwick Road                               |   |
| Bevills Close                              |   |
| Brickmakers Arms Lane                      |   |
| Burdett Close                              |   |
| Carpenters Way                             |   |
| Cedar Avenue                               |   |
| Chestnut Close                             |   |
| Childs Lane                                |   |
| Church Lane                                |   |
| Coneywood Road                             |   |
| Cooks Green                                |   |
| Cornfields                                 |   |
| Cowslip Close                              |   |
| Cypress Close                              |   |
| Dexter Close                               |   |
| Doddington Road                            |   |
| Drivers Close                              |   |
| Dykemoor Drove                             |   |
| Dykemoor Drove North                       |   |
| Eastalls Close                             |   |
| Eastmoor Lane                              |   |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Fen View                |  |
| Floods Ferry Road       | The Bungalow Copalder Farm, 1 & 2 Copalder Farm Bungalows, Somerset Bungalow, Copalder Pumping Station, Sunrise, Sundown |
| Forty Foot Bank, Ramsey |  |
| Harvest Close           |  |
| Hermitage Gardens       |  |
| High Street             |  |
| Holly Drive             |  |
| Hospital Road           |  |
| Hunts Close             |  |
| Ingles Lane             |  |
| Juniper Close           |  |
| Kingsland Close         |  |
| Knights Close           |  |
| Manor Estate            |  |
| May Meadows             |  |
| Miller Close            |  |
| Newgate Street          |  |
| New Street              |  |
| Oaktree Close           |  |
| Orchard Drive           |  |
| Parsons Land Drove      |  |
| Peyton Close            |  |
| Primrose Hill           |  |
| Ronalds Way             |  |
| Sutton Way              |  |
| The Cherries            |  |
| The Grange              |  |
| The Larches             |  |
| The Oaks                |  |
| The Rowans              |  |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Thistledown      |  |
| Turf Fen Lane    |  |
| Turnpike Close   |  |
| Walden Close     |  |
| Webbs Close      |  |
| Willow Close     |  |
| Wimblington Road |  |
| Witchford Close  |  |
| Woodside Close   |  |
| Wood Street      |  |

### Wimblington Parish Streets

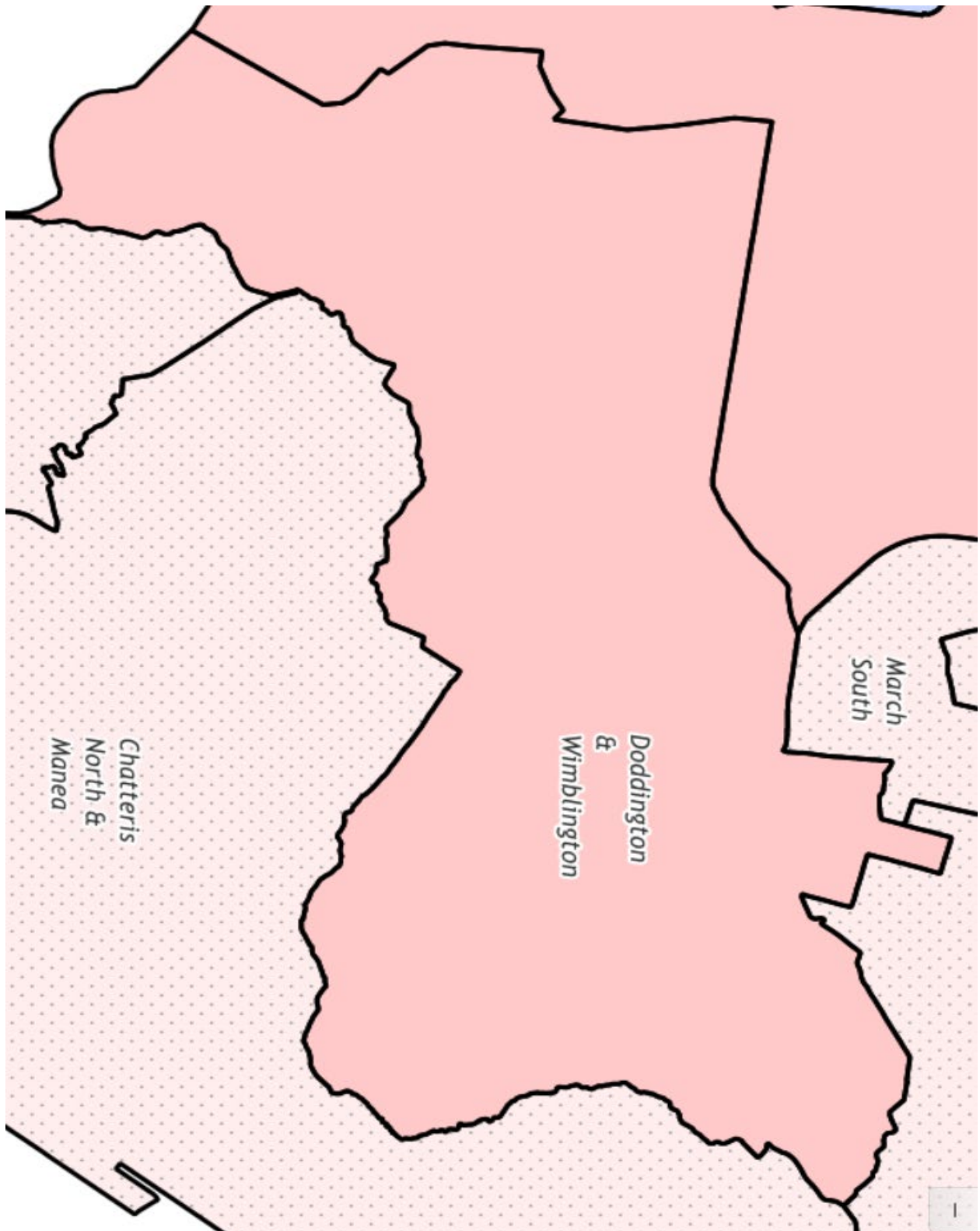
|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Addison Road               |                  |
| Ash Tree Close             |                  |
| Bell Gardens               |                  |
| Block Fen Drove            |                  |
| Blue Lane                  |                  |
| Bridge Lane                |                  |
| Byall Fen Drove, Manea     | Honey Hill House |
| Chapel Lane                |                  |
| Church Street              |                  |
| Clayfields Drive           |                  |
| Coney Walk                 |                  |
| Coneywood Road, Doddington | Field View       |
| Dobson Walk                |                  |
| Doddington Road            |                  |
| Dolby Close                |                  |
| Eastwood End               |                  |
| Eaton Estate               |                  |
| Fenland Close              |                  |
| Frogs Abbey Lane           |                  |
| Fullers Lane               |                  |



|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Governess Close           |  |
| Greenwood Way             |  |
| Hassock Way               |  |
| Honeymead Road            |  |
| Honeysuckle Close         |  |
| Hook Road                 |  |
| Horsemoor Road            |  |
| King Street               |  |
| Lily Avenue               |  |
| Lyon Walk                 |  |
| Manea Road                |  |
| March Road                |  |
| Meadow Way                |  |
| Meadow Way South          |  |
| Morley Way                |  |
| Morton Way                |  |
| New Woods Drive           |  |
| Nixhill Road              |  |
| Norfolk Street            |  |
| Norman Way                |  |
| Old Bakery Close          |  |
| Orchard Way               |  |
| Parkfield Lane            |  |
| Pond Close                |  |
| Ray Court                 |  |
| Rhonda Park               |  |
| Rose Cottage Gardens      |  |
| Sixteen Foot Bank, Stonea |  |
| Snowdrop Way              |  |
| St Peters Drive           |  |
| The Chase, Stonea         |  |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| The Paddocks            |  |
| Waggoners Way           |  |
| Walnut Tree Walk        |  |
| Webb Gardens            |  |
| Westfield Road, Manea   | 112  |
| Willow Gardens          |  |
| Wimblington Road, Manea | Boots Bridge Bungalow, 1 & 2 Lawrence Bridge Farm, Cornfields, Greensholme, Burnlea House, The Willows, Swan View, Laburnum House, Targaryen House, Brockenhurst |
| Woodysfield             |  |

## PROPOSED NEW DODDINGTON AND WIMBLINGTON DISTRICT WARD



## EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The southern boundary is determined by the existing Chatteris and Manea parish boundary, whereas the northern boundary follows the southern boundaries of Whittlesey, March and Wisbech parishes. Both the Member focus group and Member Working Group were keen to utilise existing parishes as building blocks for the district warding arrangements. The proposed new ward encompasses the entire parishes of Doddington and Wimblington. Both villages encompassed within the ward have a clear sense of community identity, the villages encompass schools, shops and GP surgeries therefore the villages are largely self-sufficient. The proposed scheme builds on links between Doddington and Wimblington which are well established and long standing.

Electors within the villages do not associate themselves with the Towns of Whittlesey, March, Chatteris or Wisbech for electoral purposes, but both villages share a border with the Town of March and both look towards March as their closest main Town for relevant services and facilities.

In order to achieve electoral equality, we propose this becomes a dual member ward. The proposed ward name of Doddington and Wimblington Ward reflects the geographical area and is felt is well established and is already widely recognised and accepted by local residents.

## WARD PROFILE – MARCH EAST AND CHRISTCHURCH – THREE MEMBER WARD

- 2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 6166 VARIANCE +0.4%

### ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

#### March East Streets

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Abbeygate Court    |                   |
| Alberts Drive      |                   |
| Aldeby Close       |                   |
| Apple Grove        |                   |
| Ashbeach Road      |                   |
| Asplin Avenue      |                   |
| Badgeney End       |                   |
| Badgeney Road      |                   |
| Bevills Place      |                   |
| Binnimoor Road     |                   |
| Bittern Way        |                   |
| Bosworth Way       |                   |
| Breton Avenue      |                   |
| Britannia View     |                   |
| Camargue Drive     |                   |
| Cavalry Drive      |                   |
| Cavalry Park       |                   |
| Chandlers Way      |                   |
| Cleveland Bay      |                   |
| Clydesdale Close   |                   |
| Coleseed Road      | Wimbledon Farm, 2 |
| Collingwood Avenue |                   |
| Cotswold Close     |                   |
| Cygnat Crescent    |                   |
| Deerfield Road     |                   |

|                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Dragoon Drive               |                |
| East Drive                  |                |
| Eastwood Avenue             |                |
| Elwyn Court                 |                |
| Elwyn Road                  |                |
| Elwyndene Road              |                |
| Endeavour Way               |                |
| Fairfax Way                 |                |
| Field Baulk                 |                |
| Fleetwood Close             |                |
| Fleming Court               |                |
| Gimbert Square              |                |
| Green Street                |                |
| Grounds Avenue              |                |
| Haslehurst Close            |                |
| Heathcote Close             |                |
| Henry Orbell Close          |                |
| Heron Walk                  |                |
| High Street                 | 30-132 (evens) |
| Horsemoor Road, Wimblington | Bosworth House |
| Hunters Chase               |                |
| Hurst Avenue                |                |
| Hussars Court               |                |
| Ingoldsby Close             |                |
| Ireton Way                  |                |
| Jordans Close               |                |
| Kelsey Way                  |                |
| Kingfisher Close            |                |
| Mallard Way                 |                |
| Mallett Close               |                |
| Market Place                |                |

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Meadow Drive       |  |
| Mills Gardens      |  |
| Minstrel Walk      |  |
| Monte Long Close   |  |
| Monument View      |  |
| Morton Avenue      |  |
| New Road           |  |
| Noble Gardens      |  |
| Norico Bay         |  |
| North Drive        |  |
| Olivers Way        |  |
| Orchard Close      |  |
| Orchard Road       |  |
| Orchard Road South |  |
| Papworth Road      |  |
| Percheron Drive    |  |
| Plover Drive       |  |
| River Drive        |  |
| Robshaw Close      |  |
| Rodham Road        |  |
| Rosedene Drive     |  |
| Roses Close        |  |
| Rosewood Close     |  |
| Scargells Lane     |  |
| Shaftesbury Court  |  |
| Sheppersons Grove  |  |
| Silt Road          |  |
| Smiths Drive       |  |
| South Drive        |  |
| St Peters Road     |  |
| Stonecross Way     |  |

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Strawberry Way   |              |
| Suffolk Way      |              |
| Swallow Way      |              |
| Swift Close      |              |
| The Avenue       | 2-92 (evens) |
| The Causeway     | 4-58 (evens) |
| The Greys        |              |
| The Shires       |              |
| The Walnuts      |              |
| Upwell Road      |              |
| West Drive       |              |
| Wherry Close     |              |
| White Lion Close |              |
| Woodlands Avenue |              |
| Worsley Chase    |              |

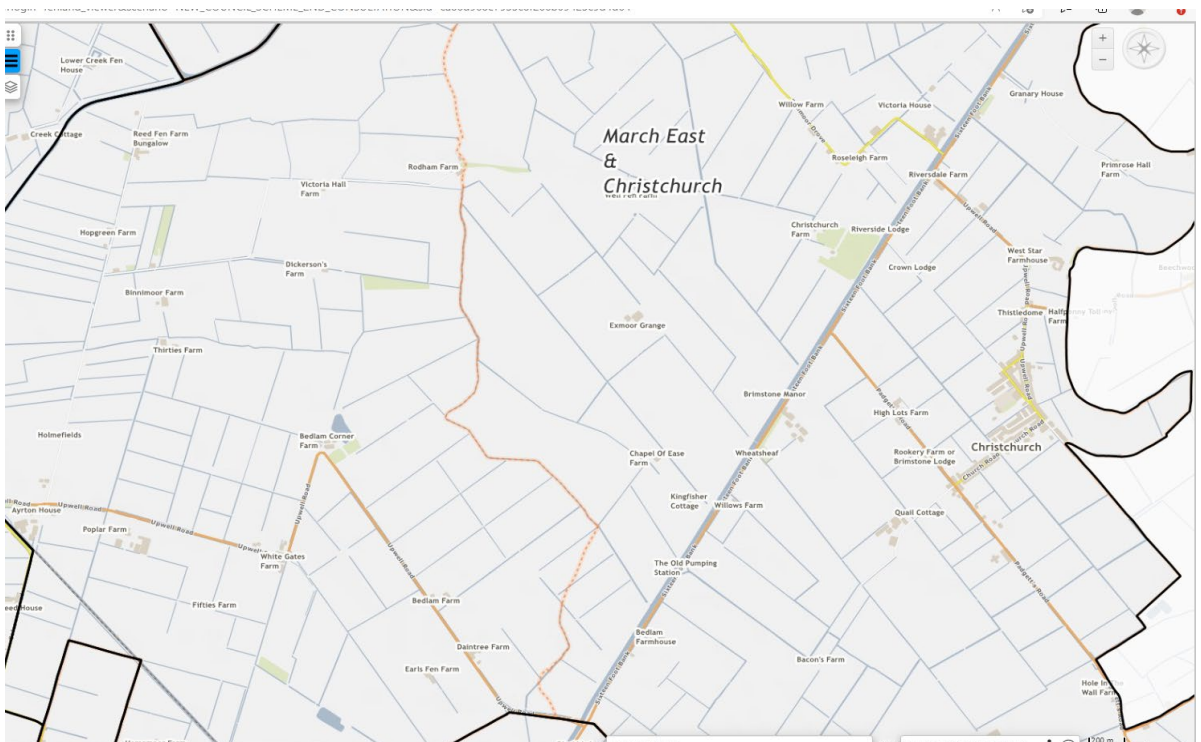
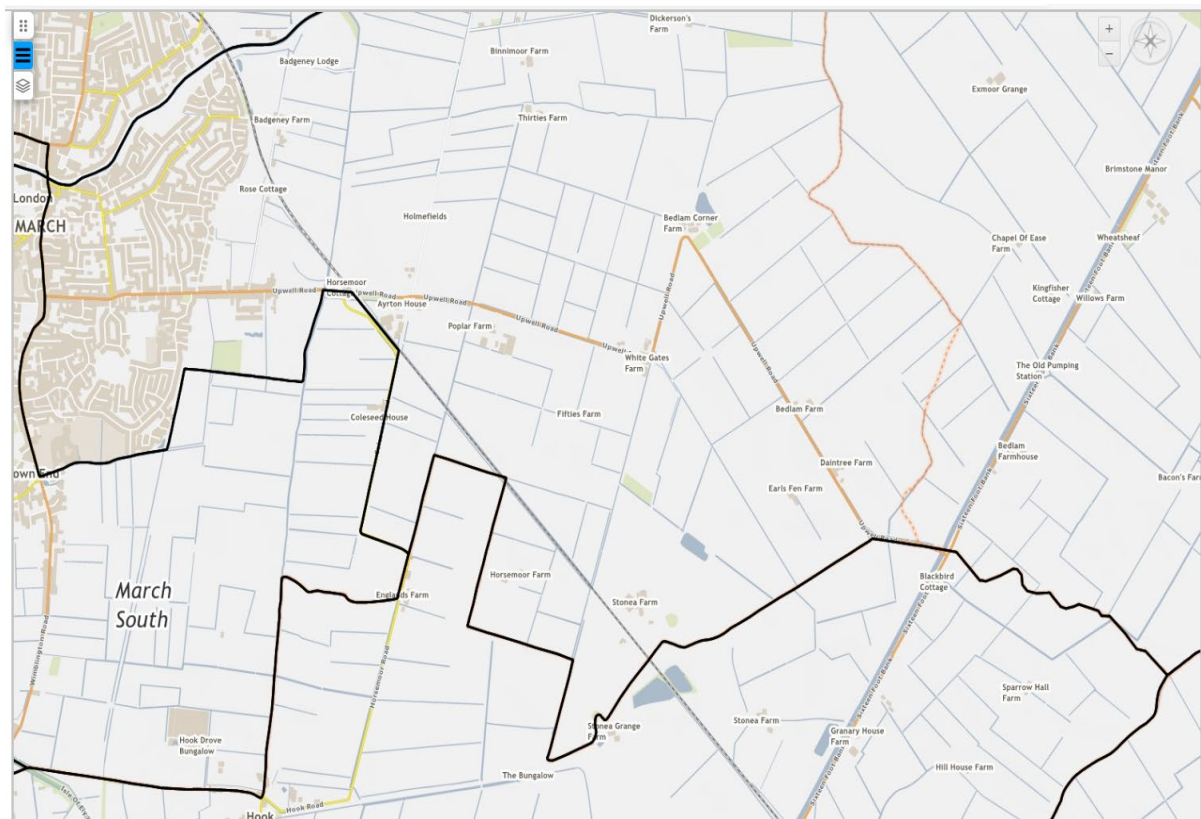
### **Christchurch Parish Streets**

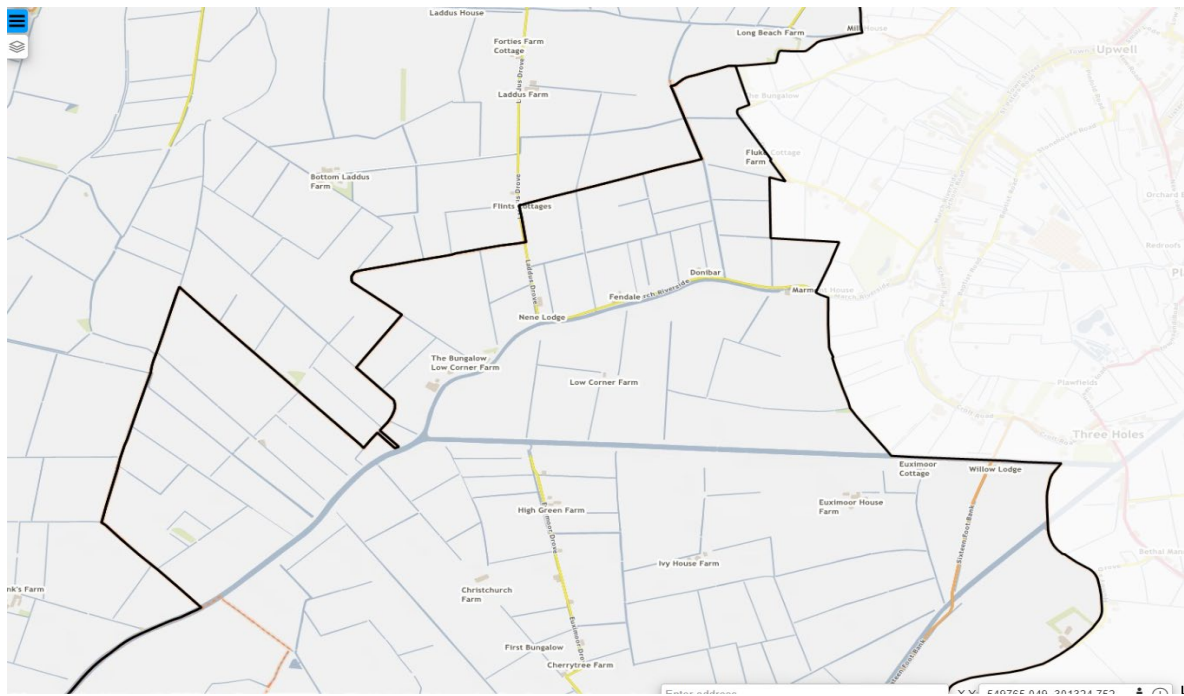
|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Brimstone Close             |   |
| Church Road                 |   |
| Crown Avenue                |   |
| Crown Drove                 | Crown Lodge                                     |
| Crown Road                  |   |
| Euximoor Drove              |   |
| Fen View                    |   |
| Fifty Road                  | Burges Lodge                                    |
| Green Lane                  |   |
| Laddus Drove, Friday Bridge | Flints Cottage, The Cottage, Far End, River End |
| March Riverside, Upwell     |   |
| March Road, Tipps End       |   |
| Mumbys Drove, Three Holes   |   |
| Padgetts Road               |   |



|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Poulters Drove            |             |
| Primrose Gardens          |             |
| Rotten Drove, Tipps End   | The Cottage |
| Scotts Road               |             |
| Shrubbery Close           |             |
| Sixteen Foot Bank         |             |
| The Croft                 |             |
| The Hill                  |             |
| Turf Lot Drove, Tipps End |             |
| Upwell Road               |             |
| Wayside Estate            |             |

## PROPOSED NEW MARCH EAST AND CHRISTCHURCH WARD





## EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The eastern boundary of the proposed new ward is made up of the external District Council boundary. In addition the proposed new ward encompasses Streets South of River Nene from Broad Street to the railway line, River Nene Old Course to Stags Holt Wind Farm, West of track from the river to Rodham Road, West of drain from Rodham Road to nearly Bedlam Bridge, North of B1099 to drain that runs north of Horsemoor to Coleseed Road, East of Coleseed Road, North of Upwell Road, West of track behind Cavalry Drive and Fairfax Way, North of Barkers Lane, West of The Avenue, The Causeway, High Street to March Town Bridge in addition to the whole of Christchurch Parish

The ward encompasses the parish of Christchurch in its entirety as well as the eastern aspect of March Town. The area is self sufficient encompassing shops, health care provision in addition the community is linked by Cavalry Primary School, Townley Primary School as well as Neale Wade Academy. The majority of children from Christchurch Townley Primary school attend Neale Wade Acedemy in March and a school bus provides this clear transport route. In addition residents of Christchurch look towards March for their shopping, health care, worship and recreational activities.

Whilst it is acknowledged that there is not one road that links the two areas of March East and Christchurch together the junction at Bedlam Bridge is only slightly outside the proposed ward boundary.

It is proposed to retain this ward as a three member ward due to the long established governance arrangement within the town, whilst also enabling ease of accessibility for local electors to their respective political representatives.

The ward name reflects the local geography and will be easily recognisable by local residents.

## WARD PROFILE -MARCH NORTH – THREE MEMBER WARD

- **2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 6,194 VARIANCE +0.9%**

### ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Acacia Grove       |   |
| Alder Close        |   |
| Alexander Gardens  |   |
| Alfruda Close      |   |
| All Saints Close   |   |
| Alpha Street       |   |
| Ash Grove          |   |
| Beech Grove        |   |
| Belmont Road       |   |
| Berryfield         |   |
| Blue Ridge Gardens |   |
| Bramble Walk       |   |
| Broad Street       | Odds                                      |
| Bronze Street      | Including Tondel Court and Chequers Court |
| Burn Street        |   |
| Burnet Gardens     |   |
| Campbell Way       |   |
| Cawood Close       |   |
| Cedar Close        |   |
| Century Way        |   |
| College Gardens    |   |
| County Road        |   |
| Cowslip Place      |   |
| Creek Fen          |   |
| Creel Road         |   |
| Cromwell Road      |   |
| Dagless Way        |   |
| Darthill Road      |   |

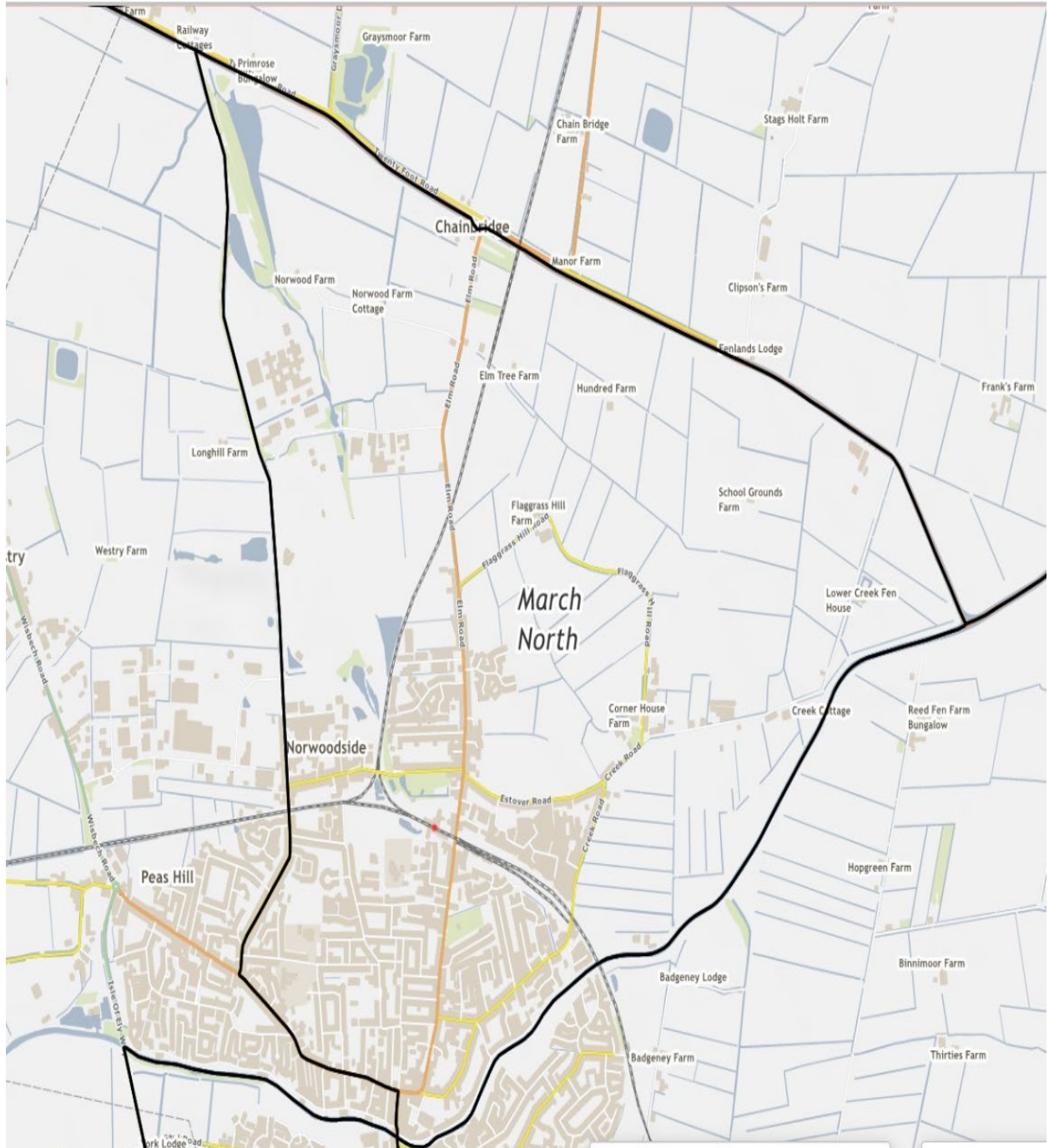
|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Elm Close            |            |
| Elm Road             |            |
| Estover Road         |            |
| Flaggrass Hill Road  |            |
| Foxglove Way         |            |
| Gold Street          |            |
| Gordon Avenue        |            |
| Great Eastern Road   |            |
| Great Northern Close |            |
| Harebell Close       |            |
| Hawthorne Grove      |            |
| Henford Gardens      |            |
| Henson Road          |            |
| Hereward Street      |            |
| High School Close    |            |
| Highfield Road       |            |
| Hobart Court         |            |
| Hundred Road         | 1-3 (odds) |
| Kingsley Street      |            |
| Laburnum Grove       |            |
| Lambs Place          |            |
| Landau Way           |            |
| Lime Grove           |            |
| Locomotive Drive     |            |
| Longhill Road        |            |
| Maple Grove          |            |
| Marsh Close          |            |
| Mayors Close         |            |
| Mill View            |            |
| Millers Yard         |            |
| Milner Close         |            |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Nene Parade           |  |
| New Park              |  |
| Newlands Avenue       |  |
| Nightall Drive        |  |
| North Street          |  |
| Norwalde Street       |  |
| Norwood Avenue        |  |
| Norwood Crescent      |  |
| Norwood Road          | 1A-173 (odds)<br>2-228 (evens)   |
| Peterhouse Crescent   |  |
| Pilgrims Close        |  |
| Poplar Close          |  |
| Primrose Crescent     |  |
| Princes Walk          |  |
| Queens Street         |  |
| Queens Street Close   |  |
| Regent Avenue         |  |
| Riverdown             |  |
| Robingoodfellows Lane | Including Oberon Park, Hansart Court   |
| Roman Way             |  |
| Shaftesbury Avenue    |  |
| Silver Street         |  |
| Southwell Close       |  |
| St Johns Chase        |  |
| St Johns Road         |  |
| St Marys Drive        |  |
| Station Road          | Including The Wheel Centre, Jim Hocking Court, Marwick House, Norfolk Court, Mortons Court |
| Stephenson Close      |  |
| Stevens Way           |  |
| Swan Court            |  |

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Swanton Close     |  |
| The Hollies       |  |
| The Junction      |  |
| The Laurels       |  |
| The Palms         |  |
| The Parks         |  |
| Thornton Road     |  |
| Wake Road         |  |
| Waterside Gardens |  |
| Westwood Avenue   |  |
| Wigstones Road    |  |
| Wilkinson Close   |  |
| Willowherb Close  |  |



## PROPOSED NEW MARCH NORTH WARD



## EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The proposed new ward contains the streets South of Twenty Foot Drain from Railway Cottages to where it meets River Nene, West and North of River Nene to Broad Street, East of Broad Street, North of Dartford Road and Wisbech Road to 61, East of Norwood Road and Hundred Road to where it meets Twenty Foot Drain

The area towards the River Nene is densely populated with similar housing estates creating a strong sense of community. The area is also self sufficient encompassing shops, health care provision in addition the community is linked by Westwood Community Primary school which incorporates the sister site Maple Grove Infants School and All Saints Primary School which provides a focal point for the local community

It is proposed to retain this ward as a three member ward due to the long established governance arrangement within the town, whilst also enabling ease of accessibility for local electors to their respective political representatives.

The proposed ward name reflects the local geography and will be easily recognisable by local residents.

## WARD PROFILE – MARCH SOUTH – TWO MEMBER WARD

- **2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 4,137 VARIANCE +1.1%**

### ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

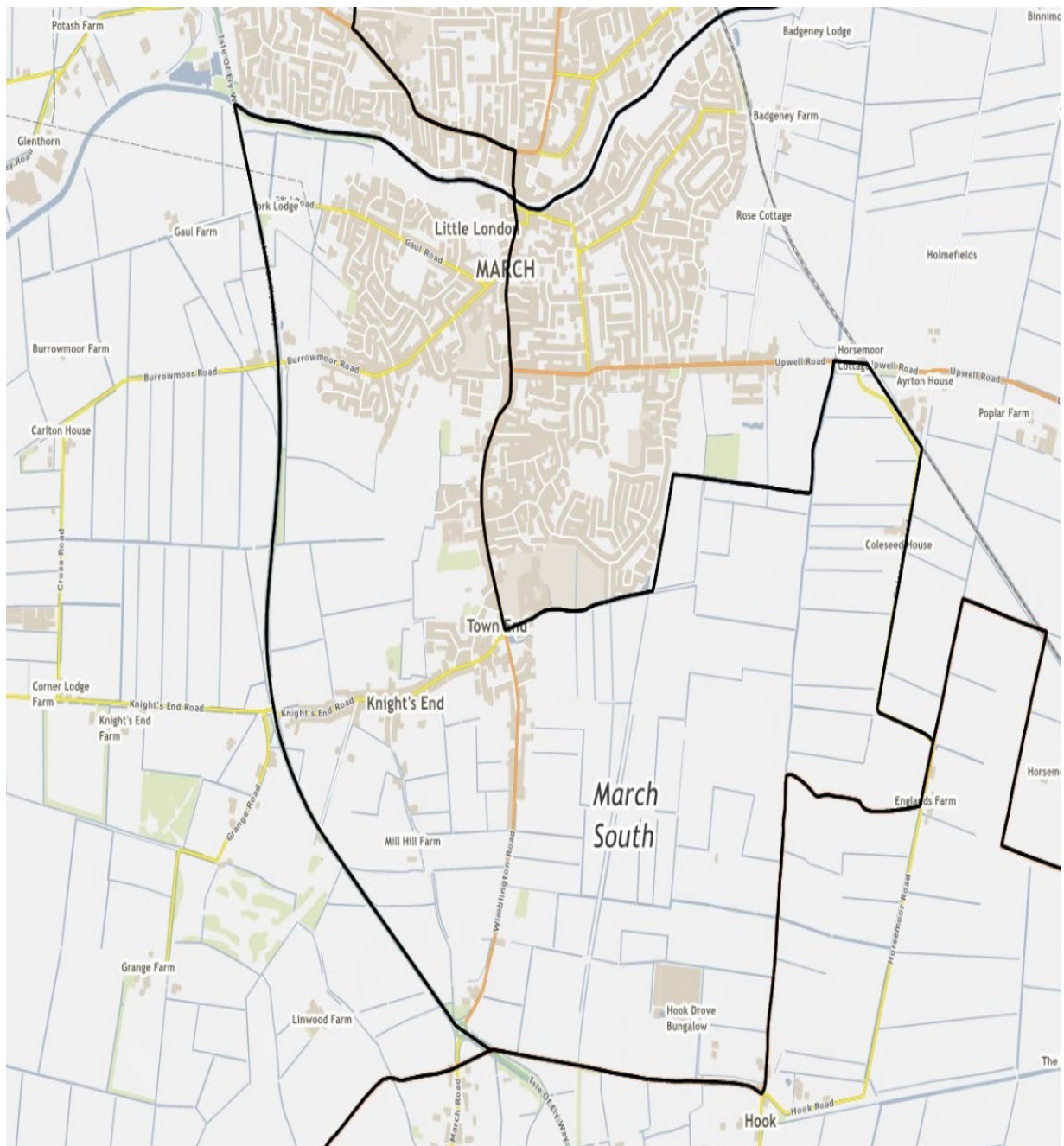
|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Acre Road         |                      |
| Almond Drive      |                      |
| Apple Tree Close  |                      |
| Babble Close      |                      |
| Barkers Lane      | 1, 2 and 4           |
| Beck Close        |                      |
| Birchwood Avenue  |                      |
| Blossom Terrace   |                      |
| Bluebell Way      |                      |
| Boundary Drive    |                      |
| Brewin Avenue     |                      |
| Brewin Chase      |                      |
| Brook Close       |                      |
| Burrowmoor Road   | To A141 March Bypass |
| Butt Avenue       |                      |
| Buttercup Close   |                      |
| Causeway Close    |                      |
| Causeway Gardens  |                      |
| Chapel Street     |                      |
| Cherryholt Avenue |                      |
| Cherrywood Avenue |                      |
| Cherrywood Green  |                      |
| Chestnut Crescent |                      |
| Church Close      |                      |
| Church Street     |                      |
| City Road         |                      |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Clover Close     |   |
| Coleseed Road    | Coleseed House, The Bungalow            |
| Conway Close     |   |
| Corn Mill        |   |
| Coronation Close |   |
| Cousins Close    |   |
| Cricketers Close |   |
| Crown Close      |   |
| Dahlia Close     |   |
| Daisy Avenue     |   |
| Damson Drive     |   |
| Deptford Close   |   |
| Ellingham Avenue |   |
| Ermine Close     |   |
| Gas Road         |   |
| Gaul Road        | To A141 March Bypass                    |
| George Street    |   |
| Heritage Way     |   |
| High Street      | 1A-133 (odds)                           |
| Hook Drove       | Hook Drove Cottage, Hook Drove Bungalow |
| Hook Road        | Corner House, Halfpenny Toll Stables    |
| Hornbeam Close   |   |
| Jobs Lane        |   |
| Jones Close      |   |
| Kingswood Road   |   |
| Kirk Ogden Close |   |
| Knights End Road | To A141 March Bypass                    |
| Lewis Close      |   |
| Linwood Lane     | 1 and 2                                 |
| Magnolia Close   |   |

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Maiden Stile Close |             |
| Mill Hill Lane     |             |
| Millfield Close    |             |
| Mulberry Close     |             |
| Oxbow Crescent     |             |
| Park View East     |             |
| Park View West     |             |
| Plowright Close    |             |
| Princess Avenue    |             |
| Ravenhill Drive    |             |
| Rectory Drive      |             |
| Richmond Avenue    |             |
| Riverbank Close    |             |
| Saxon Way          |             |
| Shaw Drive         |             |
| Sherbrooke Close   |             |
| Spire View         |             |
| Springfield Avenue |             |
| St Thomas Drive    |             |
| St Wendredas Drive |             |
| Steeple View       |             |
| Sunflower Avenue   |             |
| Swale Close        |             |
| Sycamore Close     |             |
| The Avenue         | 1-75 (odds) |
| The Bramleys       |             |
| The Causeway       | 1-63 (odds) |
| The Chase          |             |
| Town End Pits Lane |             |
| Turnbull Road      |             |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Violet Drive     |  |
| Willow Drive     |  |
| Wimblington Road |  |
| Yardy Close      |  |

## PROPOSED NEW MARCH SOUTH WARD



## EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The Southern and Western boundaries of the proposed new ward are informed by the March parish external boundaries. The proposed new March South Ward will encompass the Streets South of River Nene from A141 Roundabout to March Town Bridge, West of High Street, The Causeway, The Avenue to Barkers Lane, South of Barkers Lane, East of Fairfax Way, North of track from Cavalry Drive to drain, West of drain to Upwell Road, South and West of Coleseed Road to Horsemoor Road, West of Horsemoor Road to Firelots Drove, North of Firelots Drove following drain to Hook Drove, North of drain below Hook Drove to Isle of Ely Way, East of A141 March Bypass to River Nene

The new ward includes Burrowmoor Primary School which provides a strong focal point for the local community and serves the local surrounding area. The community is also linked by the use of the Cricket Ground and Gaul Road recreation ground

The proposed new ward achieves electoral equality in addition to facilitating effective and convenient local government in addition to supporting communities of interest as outlined above.

The proposed ward name reflects the geographic area and will be widely recognised and supported locally. It is recommended the proposed new March South ward is a two member ward.



## WARD PROFILE – MARCH WEST AND BENWICK – TWO MEMBER WARD

- **2027 FORECAST ELECTORATE FIGURE 4,404 VARIANCE +7.6%**

### ROADS IN THE PROPOSED WARD

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Adelaide Place    |  |
| Anglers Close     |  |
| Aspenwood Grove   |  |
| Atlantic Close    |  |
| Barley Close      |  |
| Broad Street      | evens  |
| Brooks Road       |  |
| Burberry Close    |  |
| Burrowmoor Road   | Properties over A141 Bypass  |
| Church Gardens    |  |
| Clifton Close     |  |
| Coalville Close   |  |
| Coneywood Road    |  |
| Cross Road        |  |
| Deben Close       |  |
| Duncombes Road    | Austins Barn, Stafford Farm, Derby Farm, Essex Farm, Lincoln Farm, Dorset Farm, Meridian House Holloways Farm, Murfins Farm, Willow House            |
| East Close        |  |
| Elliott Road      |  |
| Fishermans Drive  |  |
| Floods Ferry Road | Fieldside Cottage, Farmside Cottage, Riverside The Bungalow  |
| Gaul Road         | Gaul Road Farm   |
| Goosetree Road    | Lancaster Farm, Goosetree Barn, Warwick Farm, Bramble Barn, Worcester Farm, Radnor Farm, Radnor Farm Barn, Pembroke Farm, Devon Farm, Infields Farm, |
| Grandford Drove   |  |

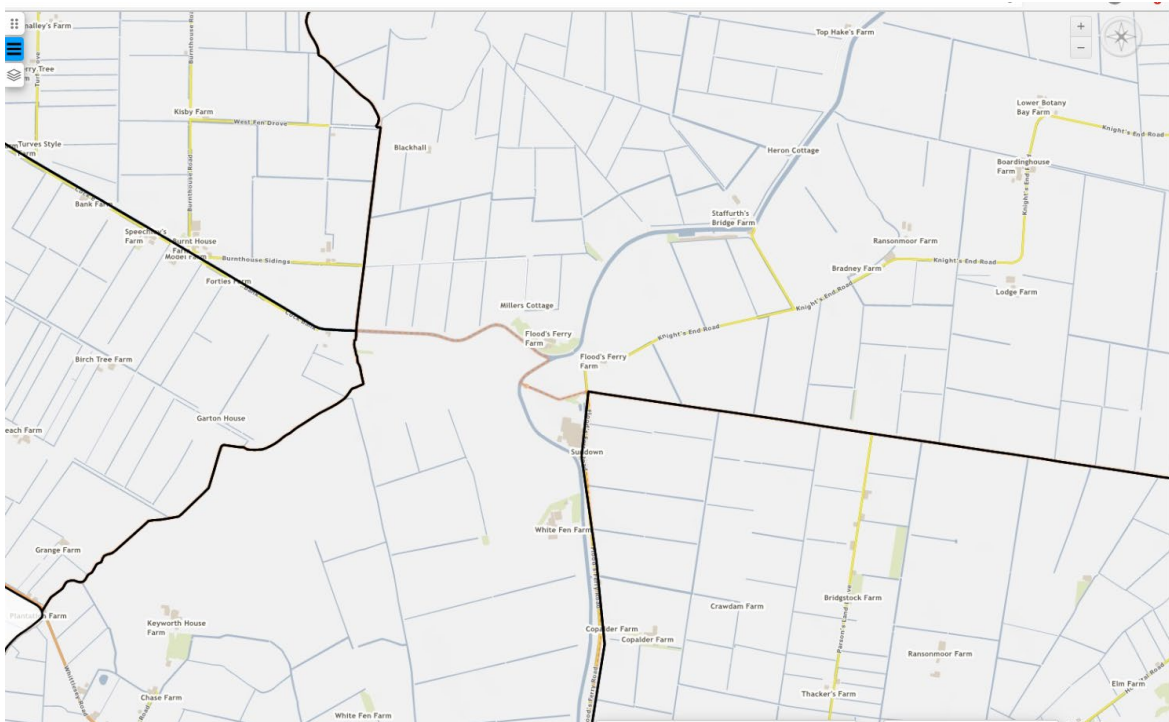
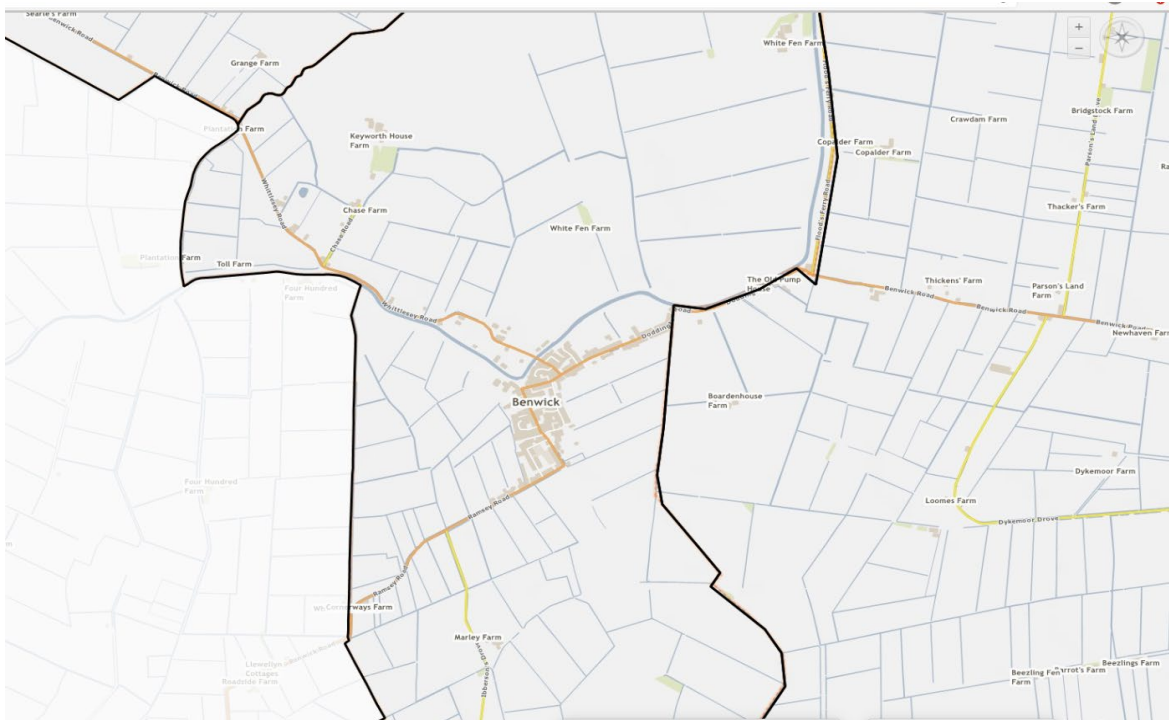
|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Grange Road             |   |
| Grays Lane              |   |
| Gresley Way             |   |
| Hakes Drove             | Bottom Hakes Farmhouse, Hakes House,<br>Airedale Lodge, Bungalow Top Hakes Farm |
| Harvester Close         |   |
| Hillside Road           |   |
| Hundred Road            | 2-54 (evens)  |
| Kent Way                |   |
| Knights End Road        | Properties over A141 Bypass   |
| Lake Close              |   |
| Limetree Close          |   |
| Linwood Lane            | Linwood Farm  |
| March Road, Wimblington | 69  |
| Marina Drive            |   |
| Marylebone Road         |   |
| Meadowlands             |   |
| Middle Road             |   |
| Norwood Road            | 175-331 (odds)  |
| Nursery Drive           |   |
| Oak Tree Close          |   |
| Orwell Drive            |   |
| Osprey Close            |   |
| Pacific Close           |   |
| Peas Hill Road          |   |
| Pentland Way            |   |
| Peyton Avenue           |   |
| Phillips Chase          |   |
| Poppy Lane              |   |
| Prospect Road           |   |
| Prospect Road           |   |
| Richards Close          |   |

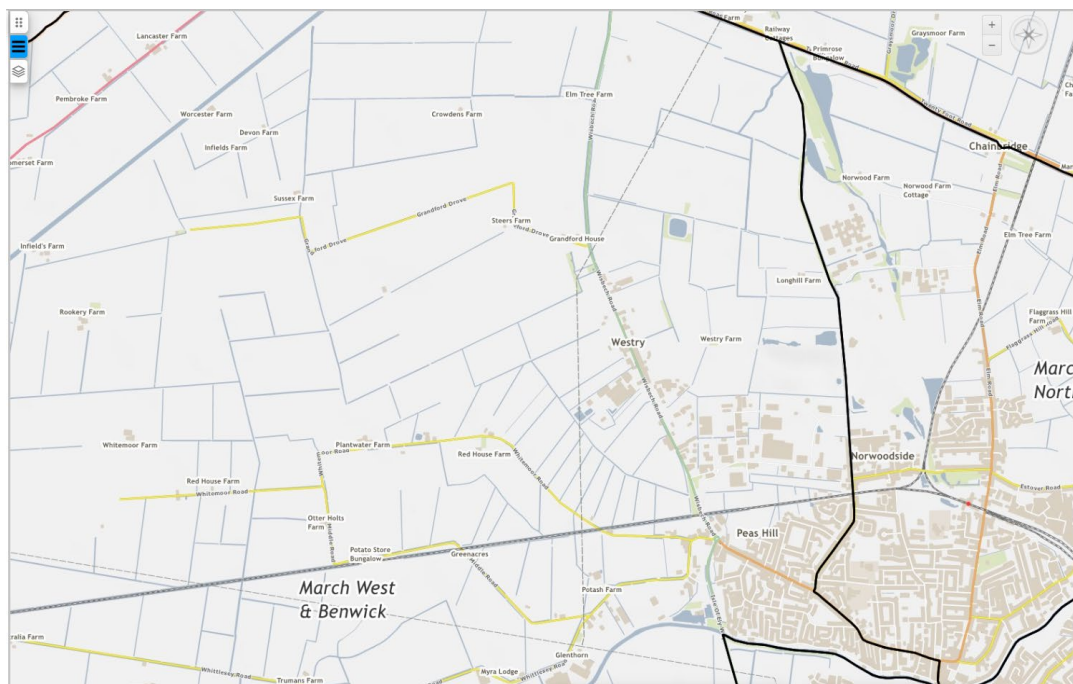
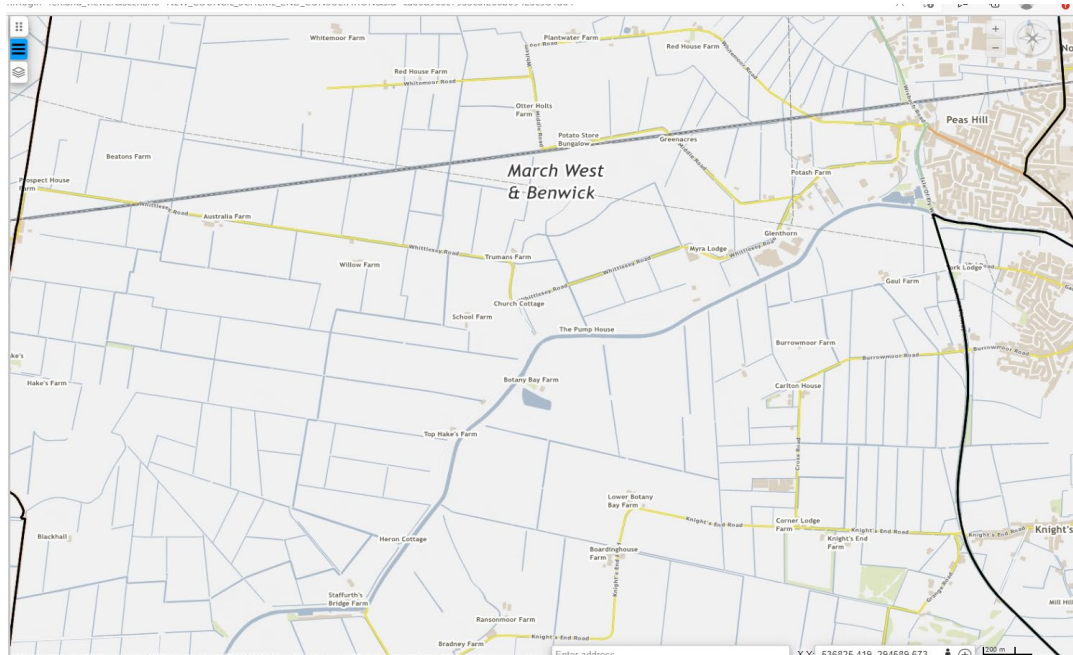
|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Rookswood Road         |  |
| Russell Avenue         |  |
| Smiths Chase           |  |
| Staceys Way            |  |
| Staffurths Bridge Road |  |
| Summer Gardens         |  |
| Swanley Gardens        |  |
| The Birches            |  |
| The Green              |  |
| The Windsors           |  |
| Truman Avenue          |  |
| Wavemey Drive          |  |
| West Close             |  |
| West End               |  |
| West Fen Drove         | Blackhall Cottage 1, Tokai Cottage 2   |
| White Horse Gardens    |  |
| Whitemoor Road         |  |
| Whittlesey Road        | <p>1-43, Prospect Bungalow 107, Four Winds 113, Clovelly 117, Mayena 119, Glenthorn 131, 1 &amp; 2 West Fen Cottage Pearsons Farm, Old Nene Barn 161, Middle Fen Farm 257, Pump House 259, West Fen Cottage 309, Game Lodge 311, School Farm 313, Old School Barn 315, Willow Farm House 405, 537, 543, 713-733</p> <p>4-16, Holly Lodge, 100, Bridge House 112, 190, Myra Lodge 206, Trumans Farm 398, 532, The Triangle West Fen</p> |
| Windsor Drive          |  |
| Wisbech Road           | <p>69-159 (odds)</p> <p>2-184C (evens)</p> <p>Westry, Hobbs Lot Farm, Elm Tree Farm, Riverside Farm</p>  |
| Wisbech Road, Coates   | Bedford Farm, Somerset Farm, Rutland Farm  |
| Woodville Drive        |  |
| Yarrow Close           |  |

## Benwick Parish Streets

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Alpha Close             |  |
| Bakehouse Close         |  |
| Cambridge Row           |  |
| Chapel Gardens          |  |
| Chase Road              |  |
| Cricketers Way          |  |
| Doddington Road         |  |
| Fields View             |  |
| Floods Ferry Road       | White Fen Farm, 1 & 2 White Fen Farm   |
| Forty Foot Bank, Ramsey | The Old Red Lodge, Grain Mill, High Trees, 1-6 Bank Farm Cottages, 1 & 2 Betty Nose Farm |
| Fountain Close          |  |
| Green Lane              |  |
| Heron Way               |  |
| High Street             |  |
| Ibbersons Drove         | Marley Farm, Walcott Farm  |
| Lilyholt Road           |  |
| Nene Parade             |  |
| Neneside                |  |
| Old West Estate         |  |
| Ramsey Road             |  |
| River Close             |  |
| Skeifs Row              |  |
| Summerfield Way         |  |
| The Old Orchard         |  |
| White Hart Drive        |  |
| Whittlesey Road         |  |

## PROPOSED NEW MARCH WEST AND BENWICK WARD





## EVIDENCE OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST

The eastern boundary of the proposed new ward is provided by the external March parish boundary as it meets Whittlesey parish. The southern boundary is provided by the external Benwick parish boundary. The northern boundary is provided by the external March Parish boundary as it meets Wisbech St Mary Parish. In the town of March the boundaries for the proposed new wards run east of Hundred Road and Norwood Road, South of Wisbech Road, East of Broad Street to River Nene, along River to East of A141 March Bypass to Mill Hill Roundabout, north of Ransonmoor, Floods Ferry Road Junction with Cock Bank, along drain West of Quakers Drove, Turves, March Road, Turves, Duncombes Road, Coates to junction of A605, North of drain, Goosetree Road and A605, North of drain opposite Goosetree Farm, North of Twenty Foot Drain to Railway Cottage. The new ward also includes the whole of the current Benwick, Parish.

Benwick residents look to March for retail, recreation, education and medical services. The two areas are linked by the Floods Ferry Road and Knights End Road ensuring the proposal meets all three of the LGBCE electoral review criteria in equal measure including Electoral equality, Communities of Interest in addition to Effective and Convenient Local Government.

The ward name reflects the local geography and will be easily recognisable by local residents. It is proposed the new March West and Benwick ward is a two member ward.

## **WHITTLESEY AND SURROUNDING VILLAGES**

The District Council recognises the fact the LGBCE endorsed the original District submission for Whittlesey and surrounding villages without amendment as the LGBCE agreed there was strong evidence that the Council proposal met all of the LGBCE electoral review criteria. In addition the LGBCE were also influenced by the strong evidence that Benwick parish lacks community ties to Whittlesey.

The Council continues to fully support our original proposal however wish to emphasis the point regarding parish ward naming conventions. The District Council firmly asserts that where District and Parish ward boundaries are coterminous that both the district and parish ward should share the same name, however where the boundaries are not coterminous then the parish ward and district wards should not share the same name. The District Council believe this approach will provide the local electorate with greater clarity and prevent any confusion.



## **WISBECH AND LEVERINGTON SUMMARY**

The District Council recognises the fact the LGBCE endorsed the original District submission for Wisbech and Leverington as they accepted the strong evidence that Leverington parish identifies as an extension of Wisbech with strong communal ties, and road networks which ensure it is an integral part of the town, albeit with its own Parish Council. The LGBCE have however proposed one small modification to the Council consultation submission proposal. The amendment results in Lynn Road being utilised as the boundary between Wisbech Riverside and Wisbech Walsoken & Waterlees wards.

The Council supports the proposal put forward in relation to the boundary change as it agrees this provides a stronger geographical boundary between the district wards, which will provide clear demarcation between the two. The Council therefore agrees with and supports the LGBCE proposals for the area with a slight amendment to the names of the resulting Wisbech Parish Wards.

Members agree that the proposed Walsoken Parish Ward should in fact be named Waterlees parish ward and Kirkgate and Staithe Parish ward should be named Walsoken Parish Ward. Members agreed the proposed parish name changes better reflected the area and would be recognisable by the electorate they serve.

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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