

Cheshire West & Chester Council

PUBLICATION OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEWS OF ALDERSEY, BARTON, CARDEN, CLUTTON, CODDINGTON AND STRETTON PARISHES

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

As part of the current Community Governance Reviews of Aldersey, Barton, Carden, Clutton, Coddington and Stretton parishes, under the terms of reference published on 25 October 2013, the Community Governance Review Committee of Cheshire West and Chester Council has made the following final recommendations to be subject to a further final period of consultation prior to being agreed by Council:

That:

- 1) the parish of Aldersey should not be abolished and that its area should not be altered;
- 2) the name of the parish of Aldersey should not be altered;
- 3) the parish of Barton should not be abolished and that its area should not be altered;
- 4) the name of the parish of Barton should not be altered;
- 5) the boundary of the existing parish of Carden be redrawn along Barton Road, Broxton Road and Carden Lane to transfer the properties of The Forge (Carden Smithy), Huntsman's House, Carden Smithy, The Lodge, Carden Ridge and Rose Cottage from Clutton to Carden parish;
- 6) the name of the parish of Carden should not be altered;
- 7) the boundary of the existing parish of Clutton be redrawn along Barton Road, Broxton Road and Carden Lane to transfer the properties of The Forge (Carden Smithy), Huntsman's House, Carden Smithy, The Lodge, Carden Ridge and Rose Cottage from Clutton to Carden parish;
- 8) the name of the parish of Clutton should not be altered;
- 9) the parish of Coddington should not be abolished and that its area should not be altered;
- 10) the name of the parish of Coddington should not be altered;
- 11) the parish of Stretton should not be abolished and that its area should not be altered;
- 12) the name of the parish of Stretton should not be altered;
- 13) the parishes of Aldersey, Barton, Carden, Clutton, Coddington and Stretton should continue to be grouped under a common parish council – Coddington and District;
- 14) the parish council for the parishes of Aldersey, Barton, Carden, Clutton, Coddington and Stretton consist of seven members;
- 15) one councillor be elected for each of the parishes of Aldersey, Barton, Carden, Coddington and Stretton;
- 16) two councillors be elected for the parish of Clutton;
- 17) a Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) Order be prepared in accordance with the above



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recommendations and that the Order be effective from 1 April 2015 save for those recommendations relating to parish electoral arrangements which shall come into force on the ordinary day of election of councillors in May 2015; and

- 18) the community governance arrangements for Aldersey, Barton, Carden, Clutton, Coddington and Stretton parishes be reviewed in advance of the local elections scheduled to take place in 2019.

Reasons for the recommendation

To enable completion of the community governance review of Aldersey, Barton, Carden, Clutton, Coddington and Stretton parishes in accordance with the timescales set within statutory guidance; to reflect the concerns expressed in the responses received following the publication of draft recommendations which proposed amalgamation of the six parishes in the grouping into one; to enable more effective governance arrangements which are reflective of and more proportionate to the size of the local electorate; to determine more appropriate parish boundaries which reflect the identities and interests of local residents; to acknowledge that the nature of Stretton parish may change as a result of proposed development based on approved outline planning permission; and to enable re-consideration of the community governance arrangements at a future date in the light of this development.

The current total electorate for the area is 520 based on the Register of Electors in force from 17 February 2014. With the exception of Clutton parish, the electorate of each parish in the group is relatively equally distributed. However, almost half of the electorate reside in Clutton parish though this majority is not reflected in the composition of the 'common' local council for the wider area. A more balanced ratio of councillors to electors based on the current grouping would increase the size of the council to nine though, based on current evidence and experience, the additional seats would likely remain unfilled.

The size of the electorate for the wider area is forecast to increase to 588 within the next five years through a 10% increase in the electorate of Barton parish and a 155% increase in the electorate of Stretton parish.

Next steps

All residents and any other persons or organisations wishing to make representations on the draft recommendations may do so in writing to the Partnerships Team, Cheshire West and Chester Council, Goldsmith House, Hamilton Place, Chester, CH1 1SE. Alternatively, representations may be submitted by email to

partnershipsandareaworking@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk quoting 'Community Governance Review – Coddington and District' in the Subject field.

The deadline for receipt of comments is midnight on 31 August 2014.

Date of Publication: 1 August 2014



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and Chester