

### 1. Part One - Swindon Borough Community Governance Review (Stage Three)

#### Introduction – Stage Three

- 1.1 A Community Governance Review for the whole Borough of Swindon was initiated in December 2015. This Appendix details public responses to the Council's consultation and engagement activities in Stages One to Three.
- 1.2 Following a decision by Cabinet, on 17<sup>th</sup> August, Stage Three commenced on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016. This marked the start of the formal public consultation as set out in the August Cabinet report. Stage Three invited comments on the formal proposal set out in the consultation map.
- 1.3 As with the earlier Community Governance Review stages of engagement, all residents, groups, associations, stakeholders and Parish Council who had asked for feedback in the previous stages were notified in writing by email. This included notification of five public meetings taking place in September.
- 1.4 All resident groups and Parish Councils were invited to a stakeholder meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 to receive an update on the start of formal consultation.
- 1.5 In support of the consultation, a leaflet was distributed through Royal Mail delivery to all households during September. From 23<sup>rd</sup> August, displays on the Review with copies of the Cabinet report, consultation feedback forms and a return box were sited in four main libraries; West Swindon, Parks, North Swindon and Central. An online survey was also opened.
- 1.6 Swindon Borough Council's website was updated with information about the process to date, access to the relevant Cabinet papers, redacted copies of the submissions to date and access to information about the proposal for consultation.
- 1.7 Feedback was requested in any written format. At the close of the 30<sup>th</sup> September, responses had been received as follows

Email submissions	131
Feedback forms	72
Online survey returns	217
Written comments	5
Petitions	2

A number of respondents used more than one format or made multiple submissions during the consultation period. 75 submissions did not provide either a contact name or a verifiable address.

1.8 Feedback from public meetings:

<b>Broadgreen Community Centre, Central Swindon</b>
Concern about potential impact on businesses, concern about the Council's mandate to progress new parishes, general questions about the validity of the process and timeframes.
<b>West Swindon Library, West Swindon</b>
46 residents attended.
Aren't there better ways to address the issues?. Some of the Council's resources could work harder than they do currently e.g. operational hours during high season. Concern about unnecessary extra costs in relation to administration and bureaucracy. Who absorbs the costs for facilities accessed by residents generally? Concerns that people cannot afford to pay more and should be given the choice. Will there be a cap on parish precepts? Will businesses contribute? Queries about timeframes and the consultation process.
<b>Pinetrees Community Centre, North Central Swindon.</b>
32 residents attended.
Why should residents be charged more when services are not up to standard already? Why is so much money being spent on older people and vulnerable people? What is the rationale for not including a small proportion of households into Haydon Wick parish despite sending in submissions to this effect? The Council should have raised the Council tax over the years rather than creating this problem now. Why isn't there going to be a referendum? Concern about costs of bureaucracy and administration. What consideration is being given to a single parish? Will there be a cap on parish precepts?
<b>Lawns Community Centre, Old Town/Lawn</b>
60 residents attended
Concerns about how boundaries have been drawn and the rationale for dividing up certain communities. Queries and concerns about liability and maintenance of local facilities and assets. Concern about costs of the town centre. Queries and concerns about validity of the consultation process, timeframes and the lack of community support.
<b>Eldene Community Centre – Eldene/Liden</b>
16 residents attended
If services provided through Council tax are reducing, is all of this costing us more for less? What has been undertaken to ensure that the parish areas proposed such as Central South, are viable? Will parishes have any protection from the Council's cuts? Concern that consideration must be

given to poorer areas where they may be less willing to participate or to take community action. Some of the new parish areas proposed have masses of green space, has consideration been given to the relative costs across each Parish if they are to look after public open spaces? Shouldn't Covingham be expanded? Could Parishes be more creative in how they tackle local issues? Will there be a cap on parish precepts? Why isn't the Council considering one single parish? To what degree are the costs associated with older or vulnerable people being spent on immigrants or asylum seekers and refugees? How will equipment be distributed to parishes? Some feedback that there is support to group Eldene with Nythe and Liden.

### Analysis of individual responses

- 1.9 Coding was applied to redacted, anonymous text with the possibility both that there could be more than one theme per submission and even that a theme could be repeated in that submission<sup>1</sup>. The total number of coded remarks will not equal the total number of responses.
- 1.10 The most significant findings are set out in Figure One while all coded responses are listed in Table Two. Members can see the range of comments from those who replied. Given that individual submissions could contain a wide range of views a further breakdown of those who had indicated opposition to creating parishes was undertaken and full details are in Table One below. This additional analysis does indicate that there are still forms of community governance that would be acceptable.

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#### <sup>1</sup> Software Used

Huang, Ronggui (2014). RQDA: R-based Qualitative Data Analysis. R package version 0.2-7.  
<http://rqda.r-forge.r-project.org/>

Mirai Solutions GmbH (2016). XLConnect: Excel Connector for R. R package version 0.2-12.  
<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=XLConnect>

R version 3.3.1 (2016-06-21) -- "Bug in Your Hair" Copyright (C) 2016 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing Platform: i686-pc-linux-gnu (32-bit)

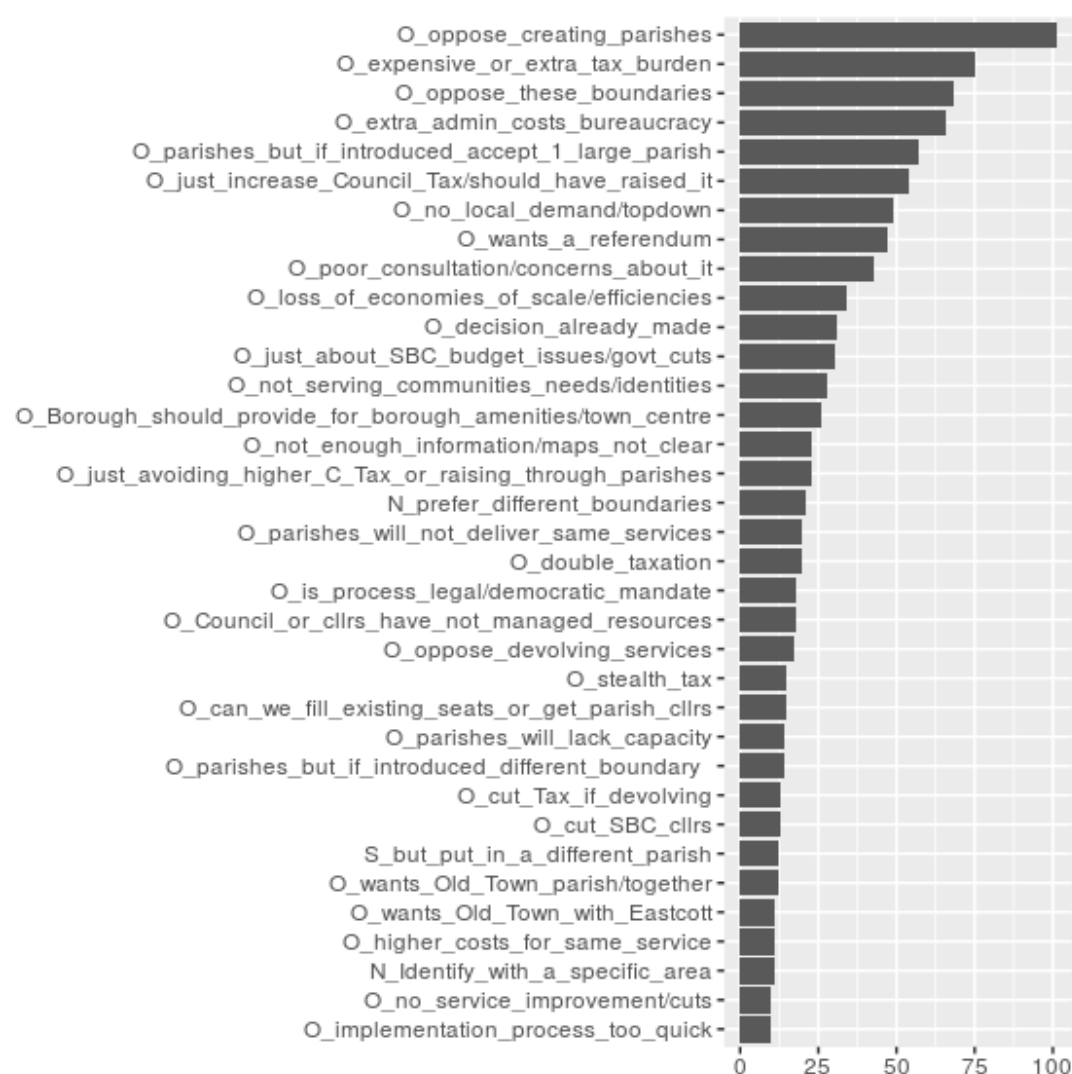
Wickham, Hadley (2009) ggplot2: Elegant Graphics for Data Analysis. Springer-Verlag New York

Wickham, Hadley (2016). tidyverse: Easily Install and Load 'Tidyverse' Packages. R package version 1.0.0. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=tidyverse>

Yihui Xie (2014) knitr: A Comprehensive Tool for Reproducible Research in R. In Victoria Stodden, Friedrich Leisch and Roger D. Peng, editors, Implementing Reproducible Computational Research. Chapman and Hall/CRC. ISBN 978-1466561595

Yihui Xie (2015) Dynamic Documents with R and knitr. 2nd edition. Chapman and Hall/CRC. ISBN 978-1498716963 Yihui Xie (2016). knitr: A General-Purpose Package for Dynamic Report Generation in R. R package version 1.14.

Figure 1: Most Common Responses



Total number of people replying =416

NB There may be more than one theme per respondent and each theme can be used more than once in a response.

## Appendix Three

Table 1 Breakdown of comments of those coded as opposing creating parishes

columnNames	countTerms
codedBy.O_oppose_creating_parishes	101
codedBy.O_expensive_or_extra_tax_burden	25
codedBy.O_parishes_but_if_introduced_accept_1_large_parish	22
codedBy.O_extra_admin_costs_bureaucracy	22
codedBy.O_no_local_demand/topdown	21
codedBy.O_poor_consultation/concerns_about_it	19
codedBy.O_just_increase_Council_Tax/should_have_raised_it	18
codedBy.O_wants_a_referendum	16
codedBy.O_oppose_these_boundaries	16
codedBy.O_decision_already_made	13
codedBy.O_loss_of_economies_of_scale/efficiencies	11
codedBy.O_Borough_should_provide_for_borough_amenities/town_centre	11
codedBy.O_just_about_SBC_budget_issues/govt_cuts	11
codedBy.O_Council_or_cllrs_have_not_managed_resources	7
codedBy.O_just_avoiding_higher_C_Tax_or_raising_through_parishes	7
codedBy.O_stealth_tax	7
codedBy.O_parishes_will_not_deliver_same_services	7
codedBy.O_not_serving_communities_needs/identities	6
codedBy.O_double_taxation	6
codedBy.O_can_we_fill_existing_seats_or_get_parish_cllrs	6
codedBy.O_parishes_will_lack_capacity	6
codedBy.O_wants_Old_Town_parish/together	5
codedBy.O_not_enough_information/maps_not_clear	4
codedBy.O_oppose_devolving_services	4
codedBy.O_implementation_process_too_quick	4
codedBy.O_will_not_save_projected_amount	4
codedBy.O_is_process_legal/democratic_mandate	4
codedBy.O_unanswered_questions	4
codedBy.O_imposed/devisive	4
codedBy.O_parishes_but_if_introduced_different_boundary	3
codedBy.O_cut_SBC_cllrs	3
codedBy.O_no_service_improvement/cuts	3

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codedBy.O_risk_of_needing_parish_CT_referendum	3
codedBy.O_wants_Old_Town_with_Eastcott	3
codedBy.O_one_parish_paying_for_town_centre	2
codedBy.O_cost_of_extra_cllrs	2
codedBy.O_cost_of_paying_for_other_areas	2
codedBy.O_prove_ASC_costs_are_up	2
codedBy.O_not_serving_towns_identity/needs	2
codedBy.O_parish_wont_have_enough_tax_base	2
codedBy.O_different_services/tax_burdens_between_parishes	2
codedBy.O_stop the CGR	2
codedBy.O_people_cant_afford/wont_pay_precept	2
codedBy.S_but_different_the_boundary/name	1
codedBy.N_why_these_boundaries	1
codedBy.S_single_large_parish	1
codedBy.O_businesses_should_paying_more	1
codedBy.S_support_the_principle	1
codedBy.O_oppose_splitting_parish_BlunsdonStA	1
codedBy.O_better_use_for_money_spent_on_CGR	1
codedBy.N_wants_a_referendum	1
codedBy.O_cut_Tax_if_devolving	1
codedBy.O_reject_term_parish	1
codedBy.O_will_not_work	1
codedBy.N_all_about_finance	1
codedBy.N_concern_about_loss_of_economies_of_scale	1
codedBy.N_concern_about_paying_for_services	1
codedBy.O_oppose_prefer_different_boundaries	1
codedBy.O_may_exceed_CT_referendum_threshold	1
codedBy.O_wants_Haydon_View_to_be_in_Haydon_Wick	1
codedBy.O_what_services_will_SBC_cut	1
codedBy.N_decision_already_made/inevitable	1
codedBy.N_Borough_to_provide_Borough_services	1
codedBy.N_concern_about_parish_capacity	1
codedBy.N_concern_about_different_services_between_parishes	1
codedBy.O_oppose_appointtd_shadow_cllrs	1
codedBy.O_oppose_forced_boundary_changes	1
codedBy.O_risk_of_corruption	1
codedBy.O_comments_about_shadow_parish	1

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codedBy.O_impact_on_local_businesses	1
codedBy.O_lobby_central_govt/MPs_more	1
codedBy.O_one_large_parish_efficient_sustainable	1
codedBy.O_no_evidence_of_pilot_better_service	1
codedBy.O_run_Council_more_efficiently	1
codedBy.O_concern_about_shadow_council_membership	1
codedBy.O_concern_about_effect_on_staff	1
codedBy.O_will_it_work/lack_of_evidence	1
codedBy.O_wants_Woughton_boundaries_unchanged	1
codedBy.O_lack_of_engagement_with_business	1

### Submissions received in Stage 3 about Specific Boundaries.

#### 1.11 Blunsdon St Andrew

1 submission, restating the petition of 899 signatures in Stage One, requesting the creation of a St Andrews parish covering the St Andrews Borough Council Ward and leaving the remainder of the Blunsdon St Andrew Parish as a separate Blunsdon Parish.

1 submission to create a Blunsdon parish and to include the area covered by the Borough St Andrews ward in an enlarged Haydon Wick parish (see Haydon Wick below).

740 signatures on a petition opposing splitting the Blunsdon St Andrew parish.

#### 1.12 Central Swindon North

3 submissions to include all of Penhill in Haydon Wick parish.

4 submissions to include Haydon View Estate, Penhill in Haydon Wick parish

1 submission in favour of Central Swindon North and South parishes

1 submission supported the proposed Central Swindon North, Central Swindon South and South parishes.

#### 1.13 Central Swindon South/South

1 submission supported the proposed Central Swindon North, Central Swindon South and South parishes.

1 submission to move Eastcott from proposed Central Swindon South to the proposed South Swindon parish

1 submission to keep Eastcott in Central Swindon South

- 1 submission to keep Eastcott in a larger parish
- 1 submission saying 16 people favoured Eastcott as its own parish
- 525 signatures on a petition to create a separate Eastcott parish.
- 19 responses seeking to put Eastcott with Old Town
- 13 submissions wanting all of Old Town in a single parish
- 1 submissions to keep Old Town in the proposed South parish
- 2 submissions to put Old Town in South Central parish
- 1 submissions response explicitly wanted Old Town not to be in a parish
- 1 combine Lawn and Badbury Park in the same parish
- 1 submission in favour of Central Swindon North and South parishes
- 1 submission supporting a South Swindon parish

### 1.14 Chiseldon

- 1 submission to combine Lawn and Badbury Park in the same parish
- 1 submission retain Coate and Badbury Park in Chiseldon
- 2 submission opposing the creation of a Badbury Park parish
- 3 submission to retain Chiseldon in its current boundaries.
- 4 submission to create a Badbury Park parish

### 1.15 East (Nythe, Eldene and Liden)

- 1 submission opposing creating an East parish
- 1 for a Liden and Eldene parish.
- 6 in support of a parish covering Nythe, Eldene and Liden, including one requesting minor boundary changes to include the Nythe allotments.
- 1 submission for an Eldene parish
- 1 submission to combine Nythe and Covingham
- 1 submission to put Lawn in the East parish
- 1 submission to merge Covingham, Eldene, Liden and Nythe in a single parish

### 1.16 Haydon Wick

- 1 submission to create a Blunsdon parish and to include the area covered by the Borough St Andrews ward in an enlarged Haydon Wick parish (see Blunsdon St Andrew above)
- 3 submissions to include all of Penhill in Haydon Wick parish.



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- 4 submissions to include Haydon View Estate, Penhill in Haydon Wick parish
- 1.17 West Swindon
  - 7 submission supporting West Swindon
- 1.18 Wichelstowe
  - 3 submission to add Wichelstowe to Wroughton
  - 1 submission to add all of Wichelstowe to Old Town
  - 1 submission to create a Wichelstowe parish
  - 1 submission put East Wichel in Wroughton
- 1.19 Wroughton
  - 3 submissions to leave the Wroughton boundaries unchanged,
  - 2 submission to add Wichelstowe to Wroughton
  - 1 submission to put East Wichel in Wroughton
- 1.20 One town parish
  - 61 submissions in favour of one large parish

Table 2: All Coded Comments

Var1	Freq
N_accepts_principle	1
N_all_about_finance	1
N_already_pay_management_fee	1
N_Borough_ward_parish_wording_protocol_needed	1
N_community_and_employment_links_to_an_area	1
N_concern_about_consultation	1
N_concern_about_more_devolution	1
N_concern_about_quality_of_parish_cllrs	1
N_concern_about_tax_level	1
N_concern_about_transfer_of_assets	1
N_could_council_devolve_services	1
N_data_on_ASC_asylum_costs	1
N_does_not_oppose_boundary	1
N_Eastcott_in_South	1
N_Eastcott_in_South_Central	1
N_existing_parish_had_contested_elections	1

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N_expand_or_change_existing_parishes	1
N_higher_CT_for_fewer_services	1
N_just_increase_CT/should_have_increased_it	1
N_make_residents_responsible_for_more	1
N_need_sustainable_communities	1
N_petition_submitted	1
N_poor_consultation/concerns	1
N_reject_splitting_parish	1
N_retain_economies_of_scale	1
N_split_Blunsdon_but_expand_Haydon_Wick	1
N_wants_Easctott_in_larger_parish	1
N_wants_Eastcott_parish	1
N_wants_to_be_in_Haydon_Wick	1
O_abolish_all_parishes	1
O_are_new_parishes_sustainable	1
O_Borough_has_other_concerns	1
O_boundary_not_clear/identifiable	1
O_but_no_further_comment	1
O_could_parishes_enforce_eg_litter_fines	1
O_if_imposed_new_Old_Town_boundaries	1
O_if_introduced_secure_economies_of_scale	1
O_impact_on_local_businesses	1
O_lack_of_engagement_with_business	1
O_may_exceed_CT_referendum_threshold	1
O_no_consideration_of_community_wellbeing	1
O_no_evidence_of_pilot_better_service	1
O_one_large_parish_better_for_transfer_of_staff/assets	1
O_one_large_parish_lower_admin_cost	1
O_oppose_appointed_shadow_cllrs	1
O_oppose_centre_businesses_paying_more	1
O_oppose_forced_boundary_changes	1
O_oppose_Nythe_Liden_Eldene	1
O_oppose_Old_Town_being_parished	1
O_oppose_politically_motivated_proposal	1
O_oppose_South_parish	1
O_principle_but_support_West	1
O_recreate_SCS_Ltd_as_parish_contractor	1

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O_rejects_how_Special_Rates_used	1
O_risk_of_corruption	1
O_run_Council_more_efficiently	1
Other_comments_unclear	1
O_use_Special_Rate	1
O_wants_a_Wichelstowe_parish	1
O_wants_Coate&BadburyPark_in_Chiseldon	1
O_wants_Lawn_&Badbury Park_combined	1
O_wants_Wichelstowe_in_Old_Town	1
O_wants_Woughton_boundaries_unchanged	1
O_what_services_will_SBC_cut	1
S_but_borough_to_provide_borough_services	1
S_but_bottom-up_not_top-down	1
S_but_concern_about_CT_after_special_rate	1
S_but_concern_at_names	1
S_but_concern_at_speed_of_change	1
S_keep_current_Wroughton	1
S_no_further_comment	1
S_only_existing_parishes	1
S_parishes_doing_more	1
S_petition_in_support_of_boundaries	1
S_secure_local_influence_and_services	1
S_should_merge_Liden_Eldene_Nythe_&Covingham	1
S_single_large_parish	1
S_smaller_parishes_in_the_unparished_area	1
S_support_changes_to_Nythe	1
S_support_East	1
S_support_Lawn_in_East	1
S_support_Nythe_&Covingham	1
S_support_Old_Town	1
S_support_Old_Town_in_South_Central	1
S_supports_2_town_centre_parishes	1
s_supports_3_parishes	1
S_supports_devolution	1
S_supports_East_Wichel_in_Wroughton	1
s_supports_Eldene	1
S_support_South_Swindon	1

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S_support_Wroughton_without_Wichelstowe	1
S_unanswered_questions	1
S_wants_Liden_&_Eldene	1
S_wants_OldTown_in_South	1
N_affect_on_house_prices	2
N_concern_about_different_services_between_parishes	2
N_concern_about_timescale	2
N_merge_SBC_and_Wilts	2
N_need_experienced_parish_clerks/cllrs	2
N_stealth_tax_or_get_round_capping	2
O_already_pay_management_company	2
O_concern_about_effect_on_staff	2
O_concern_about_only_50%_transitional_funding	2
O_effect_on_CIL/S106_payments	2
O_no_further_comment	2
O_oppose_Badbury_Park_parish	2
O_parishes_wont_solve_budget_problem	2
O_reject_term_parish	2
O_risk_SBC_losing_income_to_parishes	2
O_SBC_to_have_intervention_powers	2
O_uneven_tax_services_burden_between_parishes	2
O_using_ward_cllrs_for_shadow_council	2
O_wants_Penhill_in_Haydon_Wick	2
O_wants_Wichestowe_in_Wroughton	2
O_what_else_will_devolve	2
O_will_it_work/lack_of_evidence	2
S_but_concern_about_community_cohesion/identity	2
S_wants_East_Wichel_in_Wroughton	2
N_Borough_to_provide_Borough_services	3
N_boundaries_confusing	3
N_concern_about_extra_costs_and_bureaucracy	3
N_concern_about_loss_of_economies_of_scale	3
N_concern_about_parish_capacity	3
N_double_taxation	3
N_wants_1_large_parish	3
N_wants_a_referendum	3
O_better_use_for_money_spent_on_CGR	3

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O_comments_about_shadow_parish	3
O_concern_about_shadow_council_membership	3
O_one_large_parish_larger_taxbase_fairer	3
O_people_cant_afford/wont_pay_precept	3
O_prove_ASC_costs_are_up	3
O_will_not_work	3
S_but_concern_about_service_level	3
S_but_oppose_double_taxation	3
S_support_the_principle	3
S_wants_to_retain_Chiseldon_unchanged	3
N_decision_already_made/inevitable	4
N_refers_to_cllrs_leaflet	4
O_cost_of_extra_cllrs	4
O_lobby_central_govt/MPs_more	4
O_merge_with_Wilts	4
O_prefer_different_boundaries	4
O_wants_Haydon_View_to_be_in_Haydon_Wick	4
S_supports_Liden_Eldene_Nythe	4
S_supports_parishes	4
S_want_Badbury_Park_Parish	4
O_different_services/tax_burdens_between_parishes	5
O_one_large_parish_efficient_sustainable	5
O_reject_splitting_existing_parish	5
Other_comments	5
S_but_concern_at_higher_costs/loss_of_efficiency/effectiveness	5
N_are_parishes_able_to_deliver	6
O_no_clarity_on_who_is_responsible_for_what	6
O_oppose_large_parishes	6
O_oppose_splitting_parish_BlunsdonStA	6
O_parish_wont_have_enough_tax_base	6
N_concern_about_paying_for_services	7
N_why_these_boundaries	7
O_businesses_should_paying_more	7
O_cost_of_paying_for_other_areas	7
O_imposed/devisive	7
O_not_serving_towns_identity/needs	7
O_one_parish_paying_for_town_centre	7

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O_oppose_prefer_different_boundaries	7
O_stop the CGR	7
O_will_not_save_projected_amount	7
S_support_West_Swindon	7
N_not_enough_information/maps_not_clear	8
N_wants_Eastcott_with_Old_Town	8
Other_no_comments_at_all	8
S_but_different_the_boundary/name	8
O_risk_of_needing_parish_CT_referendum	9
O_unanswered_questions	9
O_implementation_process_too_quick	10
O_no_service_improvement/cuts	10
N_Identify_with_a_specific_area	11
O_higher_costs_for_same_service	11
O_wants_Old_Town_with_Eastcott	11
O_wants_Old_Town_parish/together	12
S_but_put_in_a_different_parish	12
O_cut_SBC_cllrs	13
O_cut_Tax_if_devolving	13
O_parishes_but_if_introduced_different_boundary	14
O_parishes_will_lack_capacity	14
O_can_we_fill_existing_seats_or_get_parish_cllrs	15
O_stealth_tax	15
O_oppose_devolving_services	17
O_Council_or_cllrs_have_not_managed_resources	18
O_is_process_legal/democratic_mandate	18
O_double_taxation	20
O_parishes_will_not_deliver_same_services	20
N_prefer_different_boundaries	21
O_just_avoiding_higher_C_Tax_or_raising_through_parishes	23
O_not_enough_information/maps_not_clear	23
O_Borough_should_provide_for_borough_amenities/town_centre	26
O_not_serving_communities_needs/identities	28
O_just_about_SBC_budget_issues/govt_cuts	30
O_decision_already_made	31
O_loss_of_economies_of_scale/efficiencies	34
O_poor_consultation/concerns_about_it	43

O_wants_a_referendum	47
O_no_local_demand/topdown	49
O_just_increase_Council_Tax/should_have_raised_it	54
O_parishes_but_if_introduced_accept_1_large_parish	57
O_extra_admin_costs_bureaucracy	66
O_oppose_these_boundaries	68
O_expensive_or_extra_tax_burden	75
O_oppose_creating_parishes	101

### Responses from Parish Councils in Stage Three:

#### Chiseldon Parish Council

1.21 In Stage Three, Chiseldon Parish Council (CPC) submitted as follows

CPC would like to restate for the CGR stage 3 , its support to retain the existing Parish boundaries of Chiseldon.

Specifically CPC would like to confirm its support to retain Badbury Park within the boundary of Chiseldon Parish. The CPC unanimously voted in favour of this motion at the Parish Council on the 11th July 2016.

As noted in our submission to CGR stage 2

- Our current boundaries represent a growing rich and diverse mix of residents.
- Chiseldon Parish residents have actively created an inclusive, caring and supportive community. An excellent example of this has recently been demonstrated by the recent Chiseldon Charity Fete which was driven, supported and managed by residents drawn from all areas within the Parish.
- The Parish Council is committed to retaining its historical boundaries.
- A new Parish Councillor was co-opted on the 11th July to represent Badbury Park Community Association (BPCA) and to strengthen the CPC commitment to supporting the Badbury Park community. It is expected that another Parish Councillor from Badbury Park will be co-opted again shortly.

Over the last month CPC has been working closely with the BPCA to understand the views and preferences of the Badbury Park Community with regard to remaining within Chiseldon Parish or moving to the proposed new “ South Swindon Parish”

To facilitate this understanding , CPC with the support of the BPCA, carried out a poll amongst Badbury Park residents.

A leaflet was distributed to over 300 houses on Badbury park and Coate Estate between 23-25th September. The leaflet asked residents to give their opinion on whether they wished to remain within the parish of Chiseldon or move into a newly

formed 'South Swindon Parish '. Responses were made via an online form and by telephone.

### Results

There were 47 responses of which 8 were invalid

Chiseldon parish 30 (77%)

South Swindon Parish 9 (23%)

- 1.22 Engagement in this survey was low, possibly because of the previous work done by the former chair of the BPCA in polling and re-polling residents and suspected confusion as to whether Badbury Park could become unparished or a parish in its own right.
- 1.23 These options , however, were discounted as in the Stage 2 of CGR it was felt that while Badbury Park was still under construction , the size of the population would not offer 'convenient and effective governance', similarly such a small parish would not benefit from economies of scale in contract negotiation leading to poor value. In closing, the CPC will clearly support whatever direction the Badbury Park community chooses to take. The CPC, however, would like to impress upon the CGR that it is the residents' choice that matters here and not a convenient boundary alteration that satisfies SBC future Parishing plans.

### **Covingham Parish Council**

- 1.24 Covingham Parish Council position is unchanged from Stage Two:
- 1.25 Covingham Parish Council do not want to be grouped with areas which were fundamentally very different. Covingham Parish Council has been established for many years and has a good reputation for providing for the residents of Covingham.
- 1.26 Covingham Parish Council are mindful of the impact that the New Eastern Villages will have on the area of Covingham and have been proactive in making comments where necessary. We would like to continue in this way going forward on behalf of residents of Covingham.

### **Hannington Parish Council**

- 1.27 No representation has been received from Hannington Parish Council or others in relation to parish boundary changes.

### **Haydon Wick Parish Council**

- 1.28 Haydon Wick Parish Council have submitted as follows:
- a) The Council wishes to advise the Borough Council that should it be agreed in the Community Governance Review process for additional areas, whether currently parished or unparished, to be merged into the current parish this would be acceptable;
- b) In recognition of the positive response to a poll conducted by the Haydon View Residents Association for Haydon View to become part of the Parish of Haydon Wick (a 92% vote in favour of the merging into the parish, based on 99 responses received from



## Appendix Three

the 131 households in the area) the Councillors fully support the application made to the Borough Council for the boundary of the Parish to be amended to include Haydon View. This is in keeping with the purpose of the Community Governance Review to recognise the area which residents identify themselves as being part of and to ensure community adhesion. At a recent meeting held in Blunsdon St Andrew a comment was made by Borough Councillor Martin that a specific view opposing this proposal had been received in Stage 2. Following a search by Borough Officers of the submissions made has confirmed that no such submission was received. It is understood that this decision not to merge Haydon View into the parish may have been based on general or verbal comments made relating to the creation of one single central parish;

c) The Council requests that the proposal to extend the southern boundary of the Parish, as shown on Illustrative Map 1 & Map 2 from Stage 2, to be reconsidered (to incorporate the section of Whitworth Road from Lime Avenue to footpath leading to Seven Fields {Pond Street}). Boundaries to run behind properties in Whitworth Road. This proposal originally arose following comments received by the Parish Council from local resident associations. Such a move would remove the current issues which arise on the artificial split between the two parts Moredon with the current boundary running along The Street;

d) To propose that the section of Abbeymeads currently within the Parish of Blunsdon St Andrew be moved into the Parish of Haydon Wick. This will remove the operational issues which currently arise with two parishes providing services in the area and the confusion for residents over which parish serves Abbeymeads. This situation will continue if the existing situation remains or if the current proposal to divide Blunsdon St Andrew is implemented. The move into Haydon Wick will meet the stated criteria of the Review in regard to ensuring community adhesion, acknowledge the view held by the majority of residents of the area they are part of and will ensure that a cost efficient and equal service to be provided in Abbeymeads. It is understood that this proposal is supported by current Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council;

e) The Council wish to reiterate the need to remove Ray Ward with one (1) Councillor position and merge this position into Haydon End Ward giving nine (9) Councillor positions;

f) The Council wish for a minor adjustment to the boundary to be considered in regard to the boundary line Oakhurst Way to Tadpole Lane. Currently the boundary leaves Oakhurst Way and traverses a field before joining Tadpole Lane, it is proposed that it runs for the length of Oakhurst Way to the roundabout for the entrance of Tadpole Garden Village and then along Tadpole Lane. This would give a hard and easily recognisable boundary by following the highway;

g) The Council is concerned over the comments contained in the report on the Community Governance Review submitted to the Cabinet in August regarding a suggestion reported to have been made by the Priory Vale and St Andrew Ward Councillors to split the Parish and wishes to object to this proposal. The Director of Law & Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer, Stephen Taylor, has advised by email that this was a verbal suggestion and he is therefore unable to provide any detail. Further some of the Ward Councillors representing the two wards have indicated to the Council that they did not put this suggestion forward and do not support such a

proposal. While it is accepted that the report has discounted the suggestion it is hoped that the Borough Council understands that it is worrying that this has been suggested and included in a report without any discussion with the Council. In the short time available until the end of the consultation period a petition of some 211 signatures (which due to size of scanned file will be sent by post) has been collected to rebut the suggestion made to remove the Priory Vale Ward from the Parish of Haydon Wick.

- 1.29 The Council understands that the October meeting of the Cabinet will consider whether to vary the current transitional funding arrangements from a three year package to a reduced two year package in regard to the transfer of services to both new and existing parish councils as April 2017. The approach of only offering a two year package of 50% in year 1 and 25 % in year 2 will have an adverse effect on the precept set by the new parishes and is likely to impact on the willingness to consider future transfers. Should this be agreed then it will be crucial for any future transfer of services to be discussed early in the financial year rather than at best in last half of the year as has been the practise to date. This will enable parish councillors to fully assess the impact on the precept for the following year and, if a transfer is accepted, put in place suitable arrangements

### **Highworth Town Council**

- 1.30 Highworth Town Council have submitted in Stage Two as follows:

On the indicative map we do not have any objection to South Marston Parish Council (SMPC) assuming responsibility for the south east corner of our Parish area, adjacent to the A420 that includes part of the NEV development at Rowborough.

We do not have a violent objection to the suggestion that the whole of Supermarine Sports Field be included in the same Parish area but would rather suggest that the boundary be set at the roadway at the bottom end of the sports fields so that they are wholly within the Highworth side of the Parish boundary.

- 1.31 There is no consent from South Marston Parish to this change.

### **Inglesham Parish**

- 1.32 No representation has been received from Inglesham Parish or others in relation to parish boundary changes

### **Liddington Parish Council**

- 1.33 Liddington Parish Council do not want to make any changes to the current boundary. Liddington Parish Council would like to request an increase in Parish Councillor numbers from 7 to 8.

### **Nythe Parish Council**

- 1.34 Nythe Parish Council submitted Stage Two comments as follows:

*Nythe Parish Council would like the Nythe allotments included within the Parish Boundary and are open to grouping of Parishes.*

### South Marston Parish Council

1.35 South Marston Parish Council submitted as follows

- The PC agree with A361 boundary proposal
- The PC will revert to the agreement made with Stanton Fitzwarren PC and will take over the area of the Supermarine currently within Stanton's boundary to take effect from the next full parish elections.

### Stratton St Margaret Parish Council

1.36 In Stage Two, Stratton St Margaret Parish Council responded as follows

Stratton St Margaret Parish Council strongly believe that it is important to maintain its existing boundary especially to the East of the Parish to include the Honda site, the A419 should not be used as the boundary line. The one provision is to include a small housing estate within the Blunsdon boundary (Branwell Close, Pearce Close and Loveridge Close on the Hyde Road)

The Parish Council is not looking to take on other areas but if Penhill is imposed on us then we would work for the best of the community.

If the civil parish of St Margaret is to remain within its current boundary, we would wish to reduce the number of Councillors from 23 to 19.

The wards to be made up of the following:

<i>Coleview</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Lower Stratton</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Lower Coleview</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Upper Stratton</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Merton</i>	<i>1</i>

### Wanborough Parish Council

1.37 Wanborough Parish Council submitted in Stage 2 as follows:

*We note the proposed marginal adjustments to the northern parish boundary and have no objection to either.*

1.38 The reference to proposed marginal adjustments is a reference to the illustrative maps prepared for discussion purposes. These were not proposals and Members may feel that there is no need to change the northern boundary of this parish until there is sufficient development of the New Eastern Villages that would create new identities and community interests.

### Wroughton Parish Council

1.39 Wroughton Parish Council have submitted as follows:

In April 2016, Wroughton Parish Council resolved that 'Swindon Borough Council be informed that the Parish Council would like the boundary of the parish of Wroughton extended to include East Wichel in accordance with the boundary indicated on the attached map.' Our position has not changed from that resolution.

1.40 We are disappointed to see that all of Wichelstowe has been removed from the Parish of Wroughton in both illustrative maps. We believe that the existing community of East Wichel and the communities of Middle and West Wichel when they develop, will be best served by Wroughton as an experienced and well established Parish Council.

1.41 Wroughton Parish Council is unique in its setting within the Borough due to its relative low population density in comparison to its geographical area. To assist the Parish Council in the continued delivery of community services such as the library, Wroughton Parish must retain its current size and the increasing financial precept opportunity which will become available as mid and West Wichel are built out. It would be unfortunate to have our precept potential reduced at a time where our Parish has already successfully taken on some services locally and is striving to accommodate the increased service delivery responsibilities which have been and continue to be devolved from the centre.

1.42 If it would not be possible to include East Wichel within the area of Wroughton Parish Council, then we would wish to retain Middle and West Wichel within our existing boundary as encompassed within the Wroughton Neighbourhood Plan.

### 1.43 Summary Responses from Residents Groups, Organisations or Associations

#### **Badbury Park Residents Association**

The survey at Stage 2 was repeated again at Stage 3 between 14 and 28 September 2016 and again the results recommended Badbury Park to becoming its own Parish called “Coate at Badbury Park” who voted by 76.63% in favour of becoming their own parish, 13.43% voted to move into the new South Swindon Parish and only 11.94% voted to remain with Chiseldon Parish Council.

The residents believe the recommendation made in the CGR Report to Cabinet (paragraph 3.29 to Cabinet on 17 August 2016) is void and should now reflect Badbury Park residents’ wishes to become their own parish. Subsequently, the principle council must take into account the impact of community governance arrangements have on community cohesion and the 700 electors now on Badbury Park. Their report should not influence the Cabinets decision because we are still under construction because the residents’ believe they can provide convenient and effective local governance with their Management Company who acts in a similarly way to the parish council.

The majority of residents voted at Stage 2 and Stage 3 to become their own parish and their second choice was to move into the new proposed south Swindon Parish.

The proposed recommendations for the new South Swindon parish does not bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and will not result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services due to the anomalies with the precept and residents’ Management Company. Badbury Park already set local priorities for local service by having a management company who works in a similar way to a parish council.

The majority of residents’ have voted Not to stay with Chiseldon Parish Council and by making Badbury Park part of South Swindon will spilt the existing community, which will then become a large diverse community, that will not bring together the necessary benefits to build towards a better community, as the majority of the Badbury Park residents’ Precept will onto improving South Swindon and not the community on Badbury Park, as they have already set their local priorities under their Management Company.

Following the residents consultation on the Community Governance Review it recommends the creation of the parish of Badbury Park and of a parish council for Badbury Park.

Subject to agreement to recommendation above, the recommends that the name of the new council shall be “Coate at Badbury Park Parish Council”.

**Conclusion:** Badbury Park is asking SBC to seriously consider their request

to become their own parish under the CGR, as the residents' could petition the Borough Council next year under the 2007 Act paragraph 40. Therefore, it would be more cost effective if the cabinet reconsidered the Badbury Park residents' wishes to become their own Parish Council.

### **Central Area Residents Improvement Group**

Central Area Residents' Improvement Group do not agree with the proposals to parish any of the currently unparished areas of Swindon as are being presented by Swindon Borough Council, both with the intention and with the process. Despite this being named a consultation, it is absolutely clear that the Council is planning to go ahead with these plans and has little interest in what local people really think about the matter. If they did, they would be offering a referendum on the matter. Should parishing of the remaining areas of Swindon go ahead we wish to make our view clear: It is entirely unacceptable and unfair to expect the residents of the central area of Swindon to pick up the cost of town centre street cleaning and other maintenance. The argument has been that other areas with shopping centres have to do the same but these areas are not comparable to the town centre, as is evident by the large estimated increase in parishing precept for this area. It is particular unfair to expect this of an area which contains 3 of the 5 most deprived areas of Swindon. We understand the Council is saying that they intend for businesses to pick up this bill but we also know that the businesses are very much reluctant to and that there appears to be no intention to make this mandatory. The only solution we can see to this problem is to create one large parish so that the cost can be evenly spread amongst all residents. We are also not happy about the proposal of having unelected parish councillors for any period of time. It's a wholly undemocratic way to implement what is already an undemocratic proposal.

### **Dorchester Road Group**

The positions of the boundaries are largely irrelevant in the context of the overall impositions of artificial parishes for fiscal reasons.

I consider the creation of new parishes and devolution of services to be a dereliction of duty for SBC. Tax payers pay SBC to provide services, not to DIY and make more.

### **Haydon View Community Association**

Repeat position from Stage One: Haydon View Rd, Eastville Rd, Sunningdale Road, Mendip Close and Orchid Close to be linked to Haydon Wick Parish.

I would further note that after the HAYDON PARISH COUNCIL meeting on the 26th sept that they have FULLY ENDORSED our request to merge the Haydon View estate in the H.W.P. Council. To date I have not seen any adverse comments/submissions against this proposal. Furthermore it will add

Community Adhesion and recognition to our estate (re the name Haydon). The proposal includes positive boundaries and will at last an opportunity to us to further establish our relationship with H.W.P.C. Most residents shop in the area, Attend doctors surgery, use the leisure centre etc., further more it will give us a sense of belonging. Over the last few years we have been part of

- A ) Whitworth ward.
- B ) Penhill ward
- C ) Pinehurst Ward

### **Kingshill Area Residents Association (KARA)**

As a Residents' Association we were surprised and disappointed to learn from the Swindon Advertiser that we are no longer considered part of the same proposed Parish as the rest of Old Town – referred to as South Swindon. Covering Kingshill and Eastcott Areas we thought we would automatically be included in a larger parish with this area. We consider our area to be part of Old Town. We are also part of the catchment for Commonweal School the local Old Town post 11 school. This does not seem to have been taken into account.

Some of our residents continue to have accessed little or no information about the parishing process. Some have been unable to attend meetings. Some don't have access to the internet. Others who were aware signed either the on-line petition or the hand written petition both of which were ignored by the Council.

The whole process has been disappointing to date both in its proposals and the way they have been delivered. And now we are unable to understand the logic of a division which creates a separate parish from the rest of Old Town thus excluding the residential area of our members.

### **Penhill Forum**

In the absence of a full and proper referendum and since Parishing seems to be inevitable: We would want to be placed in an already established parish. Our preference would be Haydon Wick Parish. We think this is important to be able to learn from good Parish Councillors in a well-run parish.

Reasons: They are established and appear to be well managed. We border the Parish and share the largest piece of open space. Many of Penhill residents use and work in the facilities, shops, doctors, and library (should we lose ours) cycle routes, play areas.

Facilities are within easy walking/cycling distance via plentiful cycle routes. They appear to keep their parish precept to a sensible affordable level.

Their centre of administration is nearer to Penhill than any other parish and therefore more accessible. The line shown on your maps clearly points to this being a more sensible option for easily defined border along Whitworth Road

and Cricklade Road.

Our second choice would be Stratton Parish, but feel we have less in common and note that their precept is already high and therefore even more of a burden to those living in an area of deprivation.

### **Pipers Way Residents Association**

1- Please do not create new parishes to include Old Town.

2- Please do not split up the urban area of Swindon, but keep this 'unparished' area governed as one block.

3- Please do not rip Old Town from Eastcott, which is part of our community, and push us into alliance with sub-urban areas, which are not part of our day-to-day community.

The first answer that we would like to be recorded is please do not create a new parish including Old Town.

There is no evidence that the people of Old Town want parishes, no requests have been made to either ourselves, to the media or, in current knowledge, to Swindon Borough Council [SBC]. Indeed, at several public meetings the virtually unanimous votes, as handheld or secret ballots has been against any new parish for Old Town.

IF, and only IF, SBC insist on pursuing this idea against the will of the people, we would like you to consider our position on the boundaries of new parishes.

Old Town is a very clear historical space, hence we represent and draw membership and support from a fairly coherent community which is the southern half of Old Town. However, that representation of a southern Old Town is purely historical and convenience led, many of our residents live their lives in both halves of Old Town and indeed across the wider town and beyond, North v South Old Town is not a lifestyle, practical nor exact boundary. Many of our residents see themselves as part of the whole of Swindon and would wish representation on that manner.

There have been votes, ballots and discussion on this matter also and we would like you to note the outcome, Old Town sees itself as part of the wider urban Swindon.

Our second answer is that the clear wish of local residents appears to be a preference to be part of a larger parish to cover the whole, or major part, of the unparished area in urban Swindon.

However, IF, and only IF, SBC insist on pursuing smaller boundaries against the will of the people, we object significantly to the current proposed



boundaries. This answer has a key element and then further responses that are relevant.

Our third answer is that Old Town North and South must be kept together as one and that cannot be ripped at the centre point by a line through Bath Road and Victoria Road. Old Town is a community that thrives together and is clearly definable by historical precedent, shared usage and practical day to day community exchange. The complete area of Old Town can be defined by a border as such: the bottom of Croft Rd; Lakeside roads that empty onto the south/south section of Marlborough Rd; Lawns and the east side of High St; Christchurch; The Regent Hotel on Victoria Rd; The Beehive Pub; Dixon St along to the cemetery; the end point of Clifton St; the bottom of Kings Hill; The Mall; and the Southern side of Westlecott/Springfield Roads. This definition is close to universally defined by those who live in both Old Town and Eastcott wards as proved recently by social media comments and polls. We share across the proposed boundary usage of community centres at Savernake St and Christ Church; usage of parking; usage of shops, cafes and pubs; usage of parks, leisure centre and open spaces; places of worship; attendance at Lethbridge, Croft, King William and Commonweal schools; and so much more. Importantly, the current boundary would split the food and drink businesses in Victoria Rd from those in Wood St and Devizes Rd, these are substantially the same business types and share the same customers, often on the same night, and they share a commercial association which traverses the boundary. It is important that these businesses share the same facilities, the same management and the same governing bodies.

If it is clear that Eastcott must be treated as part of the same governance area as Southern Old Town, we may question some of the other areas that are bundled into this Southern Swindon package in preference to Eastcott. All of these areas are important and we imply no criticism, merely description.

Residential Lawns – including Windsor Rd. This area is very suburban, the housing was built much later than Old Town and is a very different style. It is quite a distance from Old Town and very few people would walk into the Old Town hub. The people attend different shops, pubs, schools than Old Town. There is no community group that ties the two and the area has a defined, separate community centre and residents association.

Eastern Marlborough Rd and Badbury Park are very far away from Old Town and cannot be seen to be naturally part of our community.

Marlborough Park is as yet unbuilt, but again differs significantly in architecture, population density and potentially lifestyle.

Wichelstowe, is new, clearly suburban and with their own centres, schools and residents associations. They have no connection to Old Town and

probably much closer affinity with Wroughton.

Overall the proposed Southern Swindon Parish includes a very small number of residents to create incomes to run local parks and other facilities. Indeed the parish proposed is much smaller than South Central Swindon and the addition of Eatcott to the southern area may balance the sizes of population to a greater degree. The name – South Swindon Parish, means so little, it does not define our community and will be very confusing when compared to South Central Swindon. The proposed Parish has no defined parish offices or service centres and it seems equally unreasonable that these should be in Old Town, away from the centre of the proposed parish, or in Lawns, which is away from the majority of the community.

Finally we are massively concerned by the effects that creating such parishes will have on local people. We question if there is sufficient money and power locally to maintain and protect local green spaces and public amenities; we question the high percentage cost in administration to run a parish of 6,000 people at c£900k pa budget; we question if there is political will to create a vibrant totally elected political scene to represent such a small area; we question what may happen to residents associations, a necessary tier of local representation even under parish councils; we question if there are enough volunteers to cover all this proposed activity. If these questions are unclear or negative we should not proceed.

To summarise. This idea is not wanted by local people and we believe it does not come from the community. This appears to be in direct contradiction of the spirit and wording of the very legislation used to enact this change. Indeed you have asked the community repeatedly throughout this year and there is statistical evidence that each further step towards creating parishes is in direct opposition to wishes of the community. This is not real or appropriate consultation.

As a residents association, we clearly ask Swindon Borough Council to stop the process of creating new parishes, to think again and more discursively engage with local communities to find other solutions to the challenges facing our town.

### **Rayburn Cresc Alliance**

A parish council in the Central area is not wanted.

### **Swindon Civic Voice**

Previous stage of consultation has been ignored; parishes should not be imposed. The proposed boundaries are not viable as drawn, but given that previous consultation has been ignored, and this stage driven forward, we will not try to outline the reasons here. Instead we ask to meet with the external agent who is supposedly scrutinising the process. If parishing IS forced against citizens' wishes, then we believe that one new parish for the non-parished areas would be better than the divided ones proposed. This

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process raises the concern about past use of non-parish rates, in a fashion which has long disadvantaged residents living in them. This is because their additional rate has been used to service the whole town. This proposal to parish reveals that issue but does not resolve it in any way that is democratic, in the sense that ordinary citizens might relate to.

### **Wroughton Church Council**

Wichelstowe should be part of Wroughton Parish.

Creating an effective parish is about creating a cohesive community not just an administrative boundary. If the emerging communities of Wichelstowe are to consider themselves part of a parish, they must be able to identify with that parish.

### **2. Part Two - Stage One and Stage Two Consultation Response**

- 2.1 The first stage of consultation on review commenced at the beginning of January and concluded on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. During Stage One, over 700 people attended drop-in engagement sessions between 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 17<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at the following locations:-
- 2.2 Freshbrook Community Centre,  
Highworth Community Centre,  
Coleview Community Centre Stratton,  
St Marys Hall Old Town,  
Liden Community Centre,  
St Peters Church Hall Penhill,  
St Andrews Church Hall Walcott,  
Pinetrees Community Centre Pinehurst,  
Central Community Town Centre,  
StoweAway Community Centre East Wichel,  
Haydon Wick Parish Council Offices and  
Broadgreen Community Centre.
- 2.3 At the end of Stage One, on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, 258 submissions were received.
- 2.4 Swindon Borough Council's Cabinet reviewed the submissions from the community engagement in Stage One at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The Cabinet agreed a number of recommendations, including:
- 2.4.1 Engage with local communities in June and July to address issues raised in the first stage of the Community Governance Review; and
- 2.4.2 Authorise the Director of Law and Democratic Services, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Communities, to prepare illustrative maps for use during the engagement process.
- 2.5 Two illustrative maps were prepared to support further engagement in Stage Two. Map 1 linked to submissions and boundaries proposed in Stage One of the Review, Map 2 linked to major roads and key boundaries. Illustrative Maps 1 and 2 are attached in Appendix Two A and Appendix Two B.
- Stage Two**
- 2.6 Following the Cabinet meeting in June, four workshop sessions and 8 public meetings have been undertaken. Officers have also engaged directly with key stakeholder groups and Parish Councils. A feedback form inviting comments on the illustrative maps was available on the Council's website as well as a link to make responses through survey monkey. Submissions were invited between 22<sup>nd</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016. 139 submissions and 2 comments were received. Submissions were received as follows:

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Email submissions	30
Feedback Forms/Written comments	70
Survey Monkey returns	39

- 2.7 The submissions received have now been reviewed and analysed, and are summarised in the paragraphs below together with comments and, where appropriate recommendations / draft proposals.

### Stage Two feedback from engagement events in unparished areas

- 2.8 As part of public engagement in Stage Two, 8 public meetings (including 4 organised at request of members) were held and attended by a total of 181 residents.
- 2.9 In addition to public meetings, four workshops were held in unparished areas to gain qualitative feedback on community identity and community priorities in response to the illustrative maps. Existing residents groups, all ward councillors and a small number of residents who made detailed submissions in Stage One were invited to participate.
- 2.10 4 workshops for those who had expressed more detailed views at Stage 1 were held and attended by 27 residents;

A summary is as follows:

<b>East Swindon</b>
Mixed views on community identity and defined boundaries. Park North and Park South could be linked with Eldene but might more naturally link with Walcot East. Concern about community interest and capacity in the parish model and likelihood of getting involved. Could link the East grouping together as an East parish. Eldene and Liden look to have a natural fit geographically. Map 2 generally more favourable from residents living in Eldene and Liden.
<b>West Swindon</b>
General consensus that the West boundary on the maps reflects the area that represents West Swindon. Some agreement to renewing parish boundaries along previous ward boundaries rather than existing. General sense that the future would need to be about managing and protecting the assets and spaces that West Swindon has rather than taking on new responsibilities. Some interest in the option to reduce the West parish to smaller parishes at a future date if the community identity did not work as a result of the larger boundary.
<b>North/Central Swindon</b>
Some concerns about the scale of the non parished area. Can this

genuinely reflect community identities, particularly in relation to the diversity of the local population? The diversity of the central area could mean that a larger parish covering the non parished area might serve the wider community. Concern about local impact of the town centre/shopping area on related services. Interest in smaller community groups joining Haydon Wick parish.

### **Old Town/South Swindon**

Concerns about the concept of parishes and the imposition on communities. If non parished areas are to be parished, there is some consensus that a single parish for the non parished area would serve local communities' needs better than smaller arrangements e.g. economies of scale, opportunity to go smaller in the future. Concern about costs/viability if popular assets such as Old Town gardens are transferred to parishes. Map 1 more preferable.

- 2.11 Illustrative maps and CGR information were published on the SBC website which attracted hits from over 500 residents;
- 2.12 Members were asked to publicise the events and process for feedback in their wards and networks;
- 2.13 Social media activity to promote the public meetings and maps/information was undertaken.

### **Stage Two feedback from Resident Groups, Forums or Associations**

- 2.14 Feedback from groups, forums and associations is summarised as follows.

#### **Badbury Park Residents Association**

There was insufficient information on the proposed Community Governance Review to enable Badbury Park residents to express their views on the best way forward. The proposed recommendations for the new South Swindon parish does not bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and will not result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services due to the anomalies with the precept and residents' Management Company. Badbury Park and Broome Manor already set local priorities for local service by having a management company. Making Badbury Park part of South Swindon will spilt the existing community, which will then become a large diverse community, that will not bring together the necessary benefits; unless Badbury Park is made a Ward of South Swindon.

#### **Eldene Residents Association**

Of the two choices, it would be a lot more preferable to go with Liden, Nythe and Covingham. This is due to the general feeling of being more of a similar area, as well as seeing the benefits that joining existing Parishes would bring, in terms of the administrative expertise and contacts of existing Parish

Councillors.
<b>Haydon View Community Association</b>
Repeat position from Stage One: Haydon View Rd, Eastville Rd, Sunningdale Road, Mendip Close, and Orchid Close to be linked to Haydon Wick Parish.
<b>Kingshill Area Residents Association (KARA)</b>
Only a referendum would prove support - KARA does not support the creation of new parishes that the real reason for creation is about raising additional income beyond council tax - if it had to support the creation of parishes, it would support West Swindon plus a warded super parish (as described in dia 2 Central and South Swindon.
<b>Meres Residents Association</b>
Comments on both maps. Interest in canvassing support for a separate Liden Parish.
<b>Penhill Forum</b>
<p>We feel that linking to the Central Parish would give us very little say. We cannot set local priorities without knowing the areas/neighbourhood and communities within that planned area. Four choices:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To seek to go in to Haydon Wick Parish Council, closer to services in Haydon Wick, shop in Haydon Wick, jobs available to us in Haydon Wick. Thamesdown Drive/Cricklade Road/Whitworth Road is a sensible main road boundary.</li> <li>2. Blunsdon - or we are told that a new parish of St. Andrew may be created</li> <li>3. Stratton Parish, from where Penhill originally came.</li> <li>4. To become a new linked parish to the Central Swindon proposal but we felt that we may have problems finding enough capacity.</li> </ol>
<b>Pinehurst Initiative Forum</b>
The Central Swindon area (on maps 1 and 2) looks large, especially as it is densely populated and has significant 'issues' in several of the areas. Surely this will lead to a very 'stretched' parish, in terms of funding/work.
<b>Pipers Way Residents Association</b>
We would specifically and completely reject the idea of Map 2 which splits many in Old Town into a different parish than the local civic, cultural and commercial centre. This statement in no way support Map 1 either.
<b>Shaw Residents Association</b>

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In view of the small number of people who've responded to the consultation and the fact that there is no evidence of a community request from non parished areas, we believe that to proceed would be undemocratic. The SRA therefore maintains its position that Swindon Borough Council does not have a mandate to continue. However, should SBC choose to ignore this opinion, we believe it would make sense to start with one big parish and then, if there's a popular appetite, divide it up over the coming years. Such a scenario would also preserve at least some of the economies of scale currently enjoyed by the Borough. It would also minimise the additional administrative burden the creation of several new parishes would place on the tax payer.

Specifically, given that there is no petition or demonstrable public request for a West Swindon parish, we suggest it is more democratic to include West Swindon in the aforementioned central parish until such point in time that a public petition exists requesting it to become separate.

### Swindon Tenants Voice

General commentary on the engagement/consultation process. No specific comments on any illustrative maps.

## Stage Two summary of Individual Responses

2.15 A summary of the responses is as follows:

Comments	Number of responses <i>(not all responses responded to each category, responses below are not double counted)</i>
<b>Responses with comments relating to either illustrative Map 1 or Map 2</b>	<p>9 responses generally agreed with the illustrative maps</p> <p>13 responses partly disagreed with the illustrative maps</p> <p>18 responses disagreed with the illustrative maps</p> <p>6 responses proposed a single parish for non parished areas as a preference</p> <p>2 responses preferred a South Swindon parish (from Walcot and Park North ward)</p> <p>8 responses preferred illustrative map 1 (mostly residents in Walcot and Park North ward)</p> <p>39 responses preferred illustrative map 2 (majority of responses from Liden, Eldene and</p>



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	Park South ward)
<b>Do you think the potential parishes on the illustrative maps could give the opportunity for local people to set local priorities for local services?</b>	<p>21 responses indicated yes</p> <p>38 responses indicated no</p> <p>13 responses indicated possibly</p> <p>10 responses said yes only in relation to illustrative map 2</p>
<b>Do you think any of the potential parishes on the illustrative maps could help improve your neighbourhood area?</b>	<p>10 responses said yes</p> <p>40 responses said no</p> <p>21 responses said possibly</p> <p>9 responses said yes if illustrative map 2</p>
<b>Do you think any of the potential parishes on the illustrative maps could help grow a stronger sense of community feeling or identity where you live?</b>	<p>8 responses said yes</p> <p>46 responses said no</p> <p>16 responses said possibly</p> <p>6 responses said yes if illustrative map 2</p>

### **Stage Two Parish Council responses and recommendations to the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2016 Cabinet Meeting**

#### **Bishopstone Parish Council**

2.16 In Stage Two, Bishopstone Parish Council have responded as follows

*We note the proposed marginal adjustments to the northern parish boundary and have no objection to either of the proposals.*

2.17 The reference to proposed marginal adjustments is a reference to the illustrative maps prepared for discussion purposes. These were not proposals and Members may feel that there is no need to change the northern boundary of this parish until there is sufficient development of the New Eastern Villages that would create new identities and community interests.

2.17.1 Recommendation - It is recommended that there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Bishopstone Parish Council.

#### **Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council**

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- 2.18 CGR Stage 1 - Blunsdon St Andrew formally submitted a request to retain the existing boundaries for Blunsdon St Andrew Parish. The Parish submitted that it serves the existing Parish with community facilities that promote cohesion.
- 2.19 A petition containing 899 signatures was submitted to the Community Governance Review at the close of Stage One seeking the creation of a new Parish Council for St Andrews.
- 2.20 In Stage Two, Blunsdon St Andrew submitted a detailed submission with a petition statement comprising 390 signatures. Their response includes the following statements:

*This submission demonstrates why the Parish of Blunsdon St Andrew should not be split and how it operates efficiently and effectively for the benefit of its residents across the entire Parish. Furthermore, Blunsdon St Andrew PC, is fully committed to and capable of taking on the designated services from April 2017.*

*Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council submit that it should continue to operate on its current boundaries, with the exception of the proposal from Haydon Wick to assume Abbey Meads into its boundary, which we believe has merit, provides clarity and would benefit those residents.*

*The Parish Council is firmly of the view, as demonstrated in this paper, that the boundaries set out in the Illustrative Maps would not be beneficial to residents and would in fact be more expensive.*

- 2.21 Given the strength of the petition from residents within the St Andrew area calling for a separate parish for St Andrew to be created, Members may wish determine that the existing parish area be split into two parishes, unless it is felt that the arguments put forward by Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council outweighs this.

2.21.1 Recommendation – It is recommended that the consultation map show a redrawn and renamed Blunsdon parish, with the A419 as its boundary, and with a new St Andrew Parish covering that area south west of the A419 that is presently part of the Blunsdon St Andrew Parish and that the parish have 11 parish councillors.

### **Castle Eaton Parish Council**

- 2.22 No representation has been received from Castle Eaton Parish Council or others in relation to parish boundary changes and so no changes are proposed.

2.22.1 Recommendation - It is recommended that there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Castle Eaton.

### **Central Swindon North**

- 2.23 It is considered that the area north of the Chippenham-Swindon-Didcot railway line and east of the River Ray presently outside a parish can justifiably be considered a distinct community. It recognises the parliamentary boundary along the railway line and includes the smaller communities of Gorse Hill, Pinehurst, Rodbourne, Moredon, and Penhill. These are all older traditional neighbourhoods

that were established before the massive recent expansions to the West and North West. The area also includes most of the North Central locality; hence, there is an established pattern of sub-local authority community identity and governance.

2.23.1 Recommendation – It is recommended that there be a new Central Swindon North parish consisting of the Swindon Borough Council wards of Gorse Hill and Pinehurst and Rodbourne Cheney in addition to polling districts MWA and MWD from the Mannington and Western ward and polling districts PSA, PSB and PSG from the Penhill and Upper Stratton ward. It is further recommended that the new parish should have 15 councillors.

### **Central Swindon South**

2.24 The urban area without a parish south of the Chippenham-Swindon-Didcot railway line and excluding Old Town, Eldene and Liden was formerly known as part of Swindon New Town. It has been part of one local authority since at least 1900, which has created shared cultural, retail and transport links and in particular, the area will contain significant green open spaces including Queens Park, Faringdon Park. All these help create the shared values of association that combine these disparate small communities into a broader Central South Swindon identity.

2.25 Again, while there are numerous small community and neighbourhood identities, creating more numerous parishes to reflect them would inhibit effective and convenient governance or the provision of local services that would be available to other parishes. A single parish would have sufficient resources, in terms of residents, potential councillors, and tax base to provide both convenient and effective governance as well as to reflect local communities.

2.25.1 Recommendation – It is recommended that a parish be created covering the Swindon Borough Council wards of Central, Walcot and Park North, the LEA and LEB polling districts from the Liden, Eldene and Park South ward, the ETA, ETB, ETD and ETE polling districts from Eastcott ward and most of the ETC polling district less the area south of Church Place and east of Albert Street. It is further recommended that the new parish have 15 councillors.

### **Chiseldon Parish Council**

2.26 In Stage One, Chiseldon Parish Council submitted a request to keep their current boundary arrangements with regard to the villages and hamlets that make up Chiseldon Parish. Badbury Park Residents Association submitted a separate proposal to create a new Parish for Badbury Park.

2.27 In Stage Two, Chiseldon Parish Council have submitted with comments as follows:

*Chiseldon Parish Council voted to retain its existing Parish Boundaries. A vote was taken on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and further ratified at the last Parish*

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*Council meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016 . The members also voted in favour of retaining both Badbury Village and Badbury Park within the boundary of Chiseldon Parish.*

*Chiseldon Parish Council proposes that Badbury Village is moved back under the Ward of Chiseldon & Lawn.*

*Chiseldon Parish Council request an increase in the number of Parish Councillors from 15 to 16 with effect immediately.*

- 2.28 As set out in the main report, Members may wish to note the greater shared community identities and common interests between those neighbourhoods that lie north of the M4, which may be better reflected for the purpose of convenient and effective local governance in joining a newly created South Swindon parish. Alternatively, Members may wish to give greater weight to the Parish Council's representation.

2.28.1 Recommendation – That the existing parish boundary be redrawn to exclude all parts of the Parish north of the M4, the area so removed to form part of a new South Swindon parish. It is further recommended that the number of parish councillors remain at 15, since there would be only a slight reduction in the current population.

### **Covingham Parish Council**

- 2.29 Covingham Parish Council made no submission for parish boundary changes in Stage One. In Stage Two Covingham Parish Council have submitted with comments as follows:

*Covingham Parish Council do not consent to being grouped for the following reasons: Covingham Parish Council do not want to be grouped with areas which were fundamentally very different. Covingham Parish Council has been established for many years and has a good reputation for providing for the residents of Covingham.*

2.29.1 Recommendation – Covingham Parish Council boundaries and the number of councillors remain unchanged.

### **Hannington Parish Council**

- 2.30 No representation has been received from Hannington Parish Council or others in relation to parish boundary changes and so no parish boundary changes are proposed.

2.30.1 Recommendation - Hannington Parish Council boundaries and the number of councillors remain unchanged.

### **Haydon Wick Parish Council**

- 2.31 Proposals from Rodbourne Cheney Residents Association and Haydon View Community Association were received in Stage One merging these areas into

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the existing Haydon Wick Parish. In Stage Two, Haydon Wick Parish Council have made a detailed submission including comments as follows:

*Following a discussion on the illustrative maps, a presentation from the Haydon View Residents Association and a brief summary by the Chair of Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council on their draft submission the Councillors wish to make the following comments:*

- a) In recognition of the wish of the majority of the residents in Haydon View (Haydon View Road, Eastville Road, Mendip Road & Sunningdale Road) to become part the Parish of Haydon Wick the Councillors resolved to fully support the application made to the Borough Council for the boundary of the Parish to be amended to include Haydon View ;*
- b) The proposal to extend southern boundary as shown on Illustrative Map 1 & Map 2 is accepted (with a variation to incorporate Haydon View and the section of Whitworth Road from Lime Avenue to footpath leading to Seven Fields {Pond Street}). Boundaries to run behind properties in Whitworth Road;*
- c) The Councillors have taken no view with regard to the proposals made on Illustrative Map1 & Map 2 north of the current boundary as they relate to the Parish of Blunsdon St Andrew;*
- d) The Parish Council propose that the section of Abbeymeads currently within Blunsdon St Andrew be moved into the Parish of Haydon Wick. The new boundary to run from the junction of Thamesdown Drive and Elstree Way (eastern junction) to the junction of Thamesdown Drive and the A4311 (Cricklade Road). The boundary then to run along the centre line of Cricklade Road to the point where the HP5 footpath (Sherwood Walk) joins the Cricklade Road. This footpath runs between the areas of Abbeymeads and Penhill. All the properties to the north of the footpath will be in Haydon Wick. This will remove the operational issues which currently arise with the two Parishes providing services & the confusion caused to residents over which Parish serves Abbeymeads and enable a cost efficient service to be provided. It is understood that this proposal is supported by Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council;*
- e) The Councillors wish to reiterate the need to remove Ray Ward with one (1) Councillor position and merge this position into Haydon End Ward giving nine (9) Councillor positions;*
- f) The Councillors wish for a minor adjustment to the boundary to be considered in regard to the boundary line Oakhurst Way to Tadpole Lane. Currently the boundary leaves Oakhurst Way and traverses a field before joining Tadpole Lane, it is proposed that it runs for the length of Oakhurst Way to the roundabout for the entrance of Tadpole Garden Village and then along Tadpole Lane. This would give a hard and easily recognisable boundary by following the highway.*

- 2.32 Members may note that the area of Abbeymeads is included in the petition to create a separate St Andrew parish and Haydon Wick parish has provided no equivalent evidence to support expanding to the north. In addition, Members are

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advised that the other increases to the parish boundary may have adverse consequences on a proposed North Central Swindon parish and its ability to provide convenient and effective governance whereas Haydon Wick is already of a sufficient size and establishment to do this.

- 2.33 If this is agreed by Members, the new parish area be warded as follows: Haydon Wick – 9 councillors; Haydon End – 9 councillors; and it would mean abolishing the Ray Ward.

2.33.1 Recommendation That the existing parish boundary be retained and that the parish be warded as set out above with 18 parish councillors.

### Highworth Town Council

- 2.34 Highworth Town Council have submitted in Stage Two as follows:

*There are no apparent proposed changes to the Highworth Town Council Parish boundary shown in illustrative maps 1 and 2 so we have no comments to make on this.*

- 2.35 The Town Council has stated subsequently:

*On the indicative map...we do not have any objection to South Marston Parish Council (SMPC) assuming responsibility for the south east corner of our Parish area, adjacent to the A420 that includes part of the NEV development at Rowborough (shown in yellow).*

*We do not have a violent objection to the suggestion that the whole of Supermarine Sports Field be included in the same Parish area but would rather suggest that the boundary be set at the roadway at the bottom end of the sports fields so that they are wholly within the Highworth side of the Parish boundary.*

- 2.36 Given that there is agreement between two parishes to transfer the entire area of industrial land in the most southern part of the parish to South Marston parish, polling district BHF of the Blunsdon and Highworth Borough ward would need to be amended by creating a new polling district BHJ.

- 2.37 Since there is no agreement between the Highworth Town and South Marston Parish Councils concerning the Sports Field, no change is recommended in that regard.

2.38 Recommendation – To amend the southern boundary of the parish as reflected above and that there be no change to the number of parish councillors.

### Inglesham Parish

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- 2.39 No representation has been received from Inglesham Parish or others in relation to parish boundary changes and so no parish boundary changes have been proposed.

2.39.1 Recommendation – Inglesham parish boundaries remain unchanged.

### **Liddington Parish Council**

- 2.40 No representation has been received from Liddington Parish Council or others in relation to parish boundary changes and so no parish boundary changes have been proposed.

2.40.1 Recommendation – Liddington Parish Council boundaries and the number of councillors remain unchanged.

### **Nythe Parish Council**

- 2.41 Nythe Parish Council has submitted Stage Two comments as follows:

*Nythe Parish Council would like the Nythe allotments included within the Parish Boundary and are open to grouping of Parishes.*

- 2.42 Feedback from some residents and ward councillors as set out in the main report indicates that extending the Nythe parish to include Eldene and Liden, which do not have a parish at present, would unite an area with shared community interests as well as providing for effective local governance and representation.

- 2.43 At present Nythe has 7 parish councillors and it is suggested that this be increased to 11 if the parish is expanded.

2.43.1 Recommendation – To extend the parish of Nythe to include the currently unparished areas of Eldene and Liden to create an Eldene, Liden and Nythe parish with 11 parish councillors.

### **South Swindon**

- 2.44 The residents of the new homes at East Wichel have strong community identity links with other parts of the main urban area rather than with the largely rural Wroughton parish to the south. The West and Middle Wichel areas, once developed, will also have community, housing tenure and transport links that will make them more similar to the contiguous urban core to which they are attached. In addition to this, the M4 would also act as a clear actual and geographical barrier separating Wichelstowe from Wroughton.

- 2.45 There are strong historical community ties across Old Town, Lawn, and Broome Manor with the communities there sharing a common point of focus as “Old Town”, which is distinct from New Town. The area was contained in a single local government ward from 1949 to 2012. This area has shared transport links, cultural and retail facilities and large open spaces including The Lawns, the Polo Ground, and Old Town Gardens.

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- 2.46 The residents of the new development at Badbury Park have expressed a desire to set up their own parish; however, as this area is still under construction, it is deemed too small at this time to provide convenient and effective local governance. Some residents of this area have indicated that they have more affinity to the contiguous urban core than to the largely rural Chiseldon village, and would see their community interests better reflected in a parish lying north of the M4.

2.46.1 Recommendation – It is recommended that a new parish be created covering the WWB polling district from the Wroughton and Wichelstowe ward, all the Old Town ward, that part of polling district ETC in Eastcott that lies south of Church Place and east of Albert Street, the entire CLA and CLC polling districts from the Chiseldon and Lawn ward and that part of polling district CLB from the same ward that lies north of the M4. It is further recommended that the new parish should have 15 councillors.

### South Marston Parish Council

- 2.47 In Stage 2, South Marston Parish Council have submitted as follows:

1. *The South boundary with Wanborough: Oppose the proposed change: Retain the River Cole as the boundary: Traffic egress onto A420 and towards village: Proposed NEV development intimately linked with development north of the A420: [The Parish has] considerable familiarity with the NEV proposals and emerging policies.*
2. *North boundary with Stanton: Accept change from a meandering line within the South Marston Industrial Park to A361. Accept western portion of Supermarine Sports Field (but see 4. below)*
3. *East boundary with Highworth:*
  - a) *If 2. Above is implemented, then this would run across the middle of the Supermarine sports site. We recommend that the whole of the site is included in our parish.*
  - b) *Part of the easternmost development area of the NEV at Rowborough is within the Highworth boundary.*

- 2.48 As stated above, Highworth Town Council is happy to agree the parish boundary changes with regard to Rowborough but the Town Council propose the sports field be in Highworth, not South Marston.

2.48.1 Recommendation – it is recommended that the boundary with that Parish be aligned to the A361 and that the Rowborough part of Highworth be included within the parish of South Marston, and that the remaining boundaries and number of parish councillors be left unchanged.

### St Andrew

- 2.49 An 899 signature petition has been received requesting the creation of a new parish out of the area in the Blunsdon St Andrew parish covered by the St



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Andrew Swindon Borough Council ward, with the A419 as the shared boundary. Blunsdon St Andrew has also submitted a 390 signature petition to the contrary as well as its objections to the loss of all its areas beyond the A419.

- 2.50 Additional submissions from the Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council to the last two Commissions looking at new borough council wards suggest a lack of shared community interests and community cohesion between those parts of the Blunsdon St Andrew parish that lie north east of the main road and the newer developments within the parish that are within the St Andrews Swindon Borough Council ward.

2.50.1 Recommendation – It is recommended that a new parish of St Andrew be formed for the area south west of the A419, covering all of the present Swindon Borough Council St Andrews ward. It is further proposed that this parish should have 11 councillors.

### **Stanton Fitzwarren Parish Council**

- 2.51 In Stage Two it has been proposed to change the boundary between South Marston Parish Council and Stanton Fitzwarren to follow the A361. Discussion has indicated that this is acceptable to Stanton Fitzwarren Parish Council. No formal submission has been received.

2.51.1 Recommendation – To amend the parish boundary to the A361 as agreed by the parish councils of Stanton Fitzwarren and South Marston. It is further recommended that the number of parish councillors remain unchanged.

### **Stratton St Margaret Parish Council**

- 2.52 In Stage Two, Stratton St Margaret Parish Council have responded as follows

*Stratton St Margaret Parish Council strongly believe that it is important to maintain its existing boundary especially to the East of the Parish to include the Honda site, the A419 should not be used as the boundary line. The one provision is to include a small housing estate within the Blunsdon boundary (Branwell Close, Pearce Close and Loveridge Close on the Hyde Road)*

*The Parish Council is not looking to take on other areas but if Penhill is imposed on us then we would work for the best of the community.*

*If the civil parish of St Margaret is to remain within its current boundary, we would wish to reduce the number of Councillors from 23 to 19.*

*The wards to be made up of the following:*

<i>Coleview</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Lower Stratton</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Lower Coleview</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Upper Stratton</i>	<i>6</i>

Merton

1

*If Penhill is included in the Parish then it is suggested that the number of Councillors increase by an additional 2 for the Penhill ward making the total for the whole Parish Council at 21.*

- 2.53 Since the Parish Council has not made a formal submission to include Penhill, and there might be adverse consequences for a proposed North Central Swindon parish that would diminish its ability to be effective if such a change were made, Members may choose to leave this boundary unchanged.

2.53.1 Recommendation – That polling district PSD of the borough ward of Penhill & Upper Stratton be transferred from the existing Blunsdon St Andrew parish to Stratton St Margaret. It is further recommended that the number of parish councillors be reduced from 23 to 19 as requested by the parish council, to take effect from the next full parish elections.

### **Wanborough Parish Council**

- 2.54 Wanborough Parish Council have submitted as follows:

*We note the proposed marginal adjustments to the northern parish boundary and have no objection to either.*

- 2.55 The reference to proposed marginal adjustments is a reference to the illustrative maps prepared for discussion purposes. These were not proposals and Members may feel that there is no need to change the northern boundary of this parish until there is sufficient development of the New Eastern Villages that would create new identities and community interests.

2.55.1 Recommendation - Wanborough Parish Council boundaries and the number of parish councillors remain unchanged.

### **Wroughton Parish Council**

- 2.56 Wroughton Parish Council have submitted as follows:

*In April 2016 Wroughton Parish Council resolved that 'Swindon Borough Council be informed that the Parish Council would like the boundary of the parish of Wroughton extended to include East Wichel in accordance with the boundary indicated on the attached map.' Our position has not changed from that resolution.*

*We are disappointed to see that all of Wichelstowe has been removed from the Parish of Wroughton in both illustrative maps. We believe that the existing community of East Wichel and the communities of Middle and West Wichel when they develop, will be best served by Wroughton as an experienced and well established Parish Council.*

*If it would not be possible to include East Wichel within the area of Wroughton Parish Council, then we would wish to retain Middle and West Wichel within our existing boundary.*

- 2.57 As set out in the main report, Members may wish to note the greater shared community identities and common interests between those neighbourhoods that lie north of the M4, which may be better reflected for the purpose of convenient and effective local governance in joining a newly created South Swindon parish in an area that does not have a parish at present. In particular, Members may note the views of some residents in Badbury Park as well as the views of some Ward Members that confirm a distinct sense of community that such a parish could promote.

2.57.1 Recommendation – That the parish boundary be amended to exclude the area north of the M4 in the current WWB polling district and that there be no change to the number of parish councillors.

### **West Swindon**

- 2.58 West Swindon is widely recognised to be an identifiable community that had a functioning local area forum before the creation of the West Locality, which has provided convenient and effective means for promoting local governance. The West Swindon Centre provides a focal point with sports, leisure, and retail facilities with which local residents identify. There were representations at the engagement meetings supporting this.
- 2.59 The areas that could be created as a parish would have boundaries largely similar to the current West locality, but excluding the area of the Mannington and Western Ward that lies east of the River Ray.
- 2.59.1 Recommendation – That a new parish be created covering the present wards in the West Locality: Lydiard & Freshbrook and Shaw, along with the current polling districts from the Mannington and Western Ward: MWB and MWC. It is further recommended that the new parish should have 15 parish councillors.