

Recommendations to Council

1. Recommendations by Parish/Area

Bishopstone

- 1.1 No recommendations for changes were received from the Parish Council or other residents.

Recommendation:

- 1.2 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Bishopstone and that Bishopstone Parish Council retains its nine parish councillors.

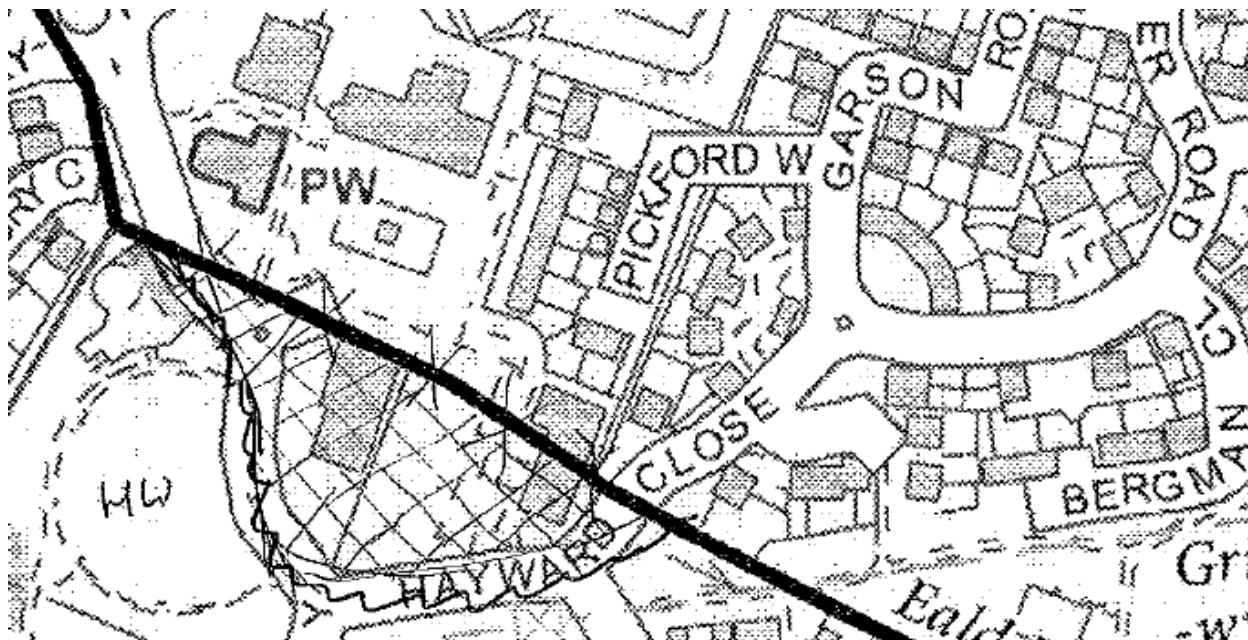
Blunsdon St Andrew

- 1.3 There was 1 submission at Stage 3 to create a Blunsdon parish and to include the area covered by the Borough Council's St Andrews ward in an enlarged Haydon Wick parish. Following the earlier petition at Stage One of 899 signatures in favour of dividing the current parish to create a new St Andrews parish with the A419, in effect, forming the eastern boundary, there were subsequent petitions of 390 signatures at Stage Two and 740 signatures at Stage Three opposing such a split for the reasons set out in the petitions.
- 1.4 The initial petition favouring the split has been re-stated at Stage 3, supporting the proposed change. The St Andrews Borough Council ward has clearly defined boundaries and encompasses an area with community identities that are distinct from that part of Blunsdon St Andrew that lies north east of A419. The remaining area around Broad and Lower Blunsdon would also retain a strong community identity and sufficient size to function as a parish.
- 1.5 At the Stage Two consultation, Stratton St Margaret parish expressed a willingness to accept the Kingsdown parish ward contained within polling district PSD from the Blunsdon St Andrew parish. This polling district adjoins the rest of the Kingsdown area, which is in the Stratton Parish but no further evidence was provided.
- 1.6 Blunsdon St Andrew Parish has not given its consent to such a change and without mutual consent between parishes and no compelling evidence that the transfer would better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and secure effective and convenient community governance within the area, Cabinet recommends that such changes not be imposed. This area was not included on the map supporting the petition for creating a separate St Andrews ward.
- 1.7 Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council has declined to suggest membership numbers for a Blunsdon Parish Council should this be recommended stating that "such details can be left for determination if necessary once a decision has been made." The Borough Council suggests that if the Borough Council's St Andrews ward is created as a new parish, then the number of parish councillors on the re-named Blunsdon Parish Council be 11 as this was their previous number.

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- 1.8 Cabinet noted the submission by the Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council, as set out above and as discussed at the Cabinet meeting on the 19th October 2016 and had regard to that submission in the context of the need to secure that community governance within the area under review reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area and secures effective and convenient community governance. It was of the view that both Blunsdon and St Andrews areas each have a clear and distinct identity from the other, with one primarily urban and the other primarily rural, and that to create two parishes would reflect the community cohesion of each community on either side of the A419.
- 1.9 Members noted the agreement between Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council and Haydon Wick Parish Council to transfer the Abbey Meads area into Haydon Wick Parish. However, the area of Abbey Meads would lie in a St Andrews parish if Members choose to continue to proceed with creating one. The area is clearly identified on the map supporting the petition to create St Andrews as being within the new parish.
- 1.10 A Haydon Wick borough ward councillor highlighted the anomaly that the present Haydon Wick/Blunsdon St Andrew cuts through buildings in the Abbey Meads village centre, which creates confusion about the responsibility for that area thus undermining efficient and effective community governance. Discussion between that councillor and the lead petitioner to create a St Andrew parish have produced the following proposed minor adjustment, to move the parish boundary southwards as set out in the map below and align it with Elstree Way/Hayward Close).

Figure 1 Adjustment of boundary through Abbey Meads village centre



Recommendations:

Recommendations to Council

- 1.11 *St Andrews Parish* - That the area south west of the A419 covering the SAA, SAB, SAC, SAD polling districts, together with the minor extension of the boundary through to Elstree Way/Hayward Close to include all of the Abbey Meads village centre, form a new St Andrews parish as this would better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and secure effective and convenient community governance within the area. No request has been made for the area to be warded and so it is not proposed to do so at this time. Accordingly, it is further recommended that the new parish be unwarded and have 11 councillors.
- 1.12 *Blunsdon Parish* - That the remainder of Blunsdon St Andrew parish north east of the A419 be renamed Blunsdon parish, as it would better reflect the identities and interests of the more established Lower and Broad Blunsdon communities in that area.
- 1.13 *Kingsdown Ward* - That the area in the current PSD polling district be part of the Blunsdon parish.
- 1.14 It is further recommended that that the renamed parish have 11 parish councillors and that it reflect the current arrangement for that area and be divided into wards with the current Kingsdown ward having 1 member, and the Blunsdon ward, covering the remainder of the proposed parish, having 10 members.

Castle Eaton

- 1.15 No recommendations for changes were received from the Parish Council or other residents.

Recommendation:

- 1.16 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Castle Eaton and that Castle Eaton parish council retains its five parish councillors.

Central Swindon North

- 1.17 There was a range of responses at Stage Three with 3 submissions to include all of Penhill in Haydon Wick parish and a further 4 asking that the review include the Haydon View area, in Haydon Wick parish. There was 1 submission in favour of Central Swindon North and South parishes and 1 submission supported the proposed Central Swindon North, Central Swindon South and South parishes.
- 1.18 Having considered the responses, Cabinet remains of the view that the area outside existing parishes east of the River Ray and north of the Chippenham-Swindon-Didcot railway line presently outside a parish can justifiably be considered a distinct geographical unity capable of reflecting and promoting the various community interests within that boundary. Cabinet has also noted that the size of such a proposed parish would be suitable to provide convenient and effective local governance.

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- 1.19 The Borough Council suggests that due to the size and population of the proposed parish, it would be sensible and practicable to create wards for the new parish and it is considered that there should be a parish council of 15 members, and the proposed warding arrangements reflect the current borough council wards and polling districts as set out below.
- 1.20 Cabinet noted the submission and map set out above from the Haydon View Residents' Association of the area it would like to be included in the Haydon Wick parish and that the Haydon Wick Parish Council is supportive of this change. The submissions made clear that such a change would better reflect community identities of those residing in the Haydon View area.
- 1.21 Members noted a re-statement by the Rodbourne Cheney Residents Association asking for their area to be included in Haydon Wick parish. However, there is a concern that such a transfer might have a significant effect on the ability the Central Swindon North parish to deliver effective and convenient community governance.
- 1.22 Cabinet considered the number of parish councillors in the proposed Rodbourne Cheney and the Gorse Hill and Pinehurst wards be changed.
- 1.23 Gorse Hill and Pinehurst Borough Council Ward Councillor John Ballman raised a number of issues at Cabinet about the number of parish councillors for the parish wards covering the Gorse Hill and Pinehurst Borough Council ward.
- 1.24 There was a further discussion of possible parish ward arrangements at a Community Governance Review Cabinet Member Advisory Group on 26th October 2016. At this meeting, the Cabinet Member for Communities stated she was minded to support the proposals from the Labour Group, especially the local knowledge of the ward councillors from the proposed parish area, relating to Central Swindon North setting out 7 wards as would better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and secure effective and convenient community governance. These are as set out in the recommendations below.

Recommendations:

- 1.25 Central Swindon North Parish - That the area 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, less the Haydon View part of polling district GPA – Haydon View Road, Mendip Close, Orchid Close, Sunningdale Road, and part of north side of Whitworth Road (Claermont Court to No. 68) - form a new Swindon Central North parish with 15 councillors to secure more effective and convenient community governance within that area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.26 That the new parish have a parish council comprising 15 councillors and that the new parish be divided into seven wards to reflect the distribution of communities within it, as set out below:

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- 1.26.1 Even Swindon ward with 2 parish councillors, covering the MWA and MWD polling districts,
- 1.26.2 Ferndale ward with 3 parish councillors, covering the RCA and RCD polling districts
- 1.26.3 Gorse Hill ward with 3 parish councillors, covering the GPB and GPD polling districts,
- 1.26.4 Moredon ward with 1 parish councillor, covering the RCB polling district.
- 1.26.5 Penhill ward with 2 parish councillors, covering the PSA, PSB, and PSG polling districts,
- 1.26.6 Pinehurst Ward with 2 councillors covering the GPA polling district, less the streets in Haydon View that are being added to the Haydon Wick parish area, and
- 1.26.7 Rodbourne Cheney ward with 2 parish councillors, covering the RCC polling district.

Central Swindon South / South

- 1.27 One submission supported the proposed Central Swindon North, Central Swindon South and South parishes set out in the consultation.
- 1.28 Of the other responses, a number related explicitly to the Eastcott area namely: 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; and a 525 signatures on a petition to create a separate Eastcott parish, with the parish being defined as the present Eastcott Borough Council ward, less that part south of Wood Street (the Old Town core).
- 1.29 The following responses referred to Eastcott and Old Town: 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; and 1 submission response explicitly wanted Old Town not to be in a parish.
- 1.30 The following responses related to other parts of Central Swindon South or South: 1 to combine Lawn and Badbury Park in the same parish 1 submission in favour of Central Swindon North and South parishes; and 1 submission supporting a South Swindon parish.
- 1.31 There is no general agreement, however, as to what comprises the areas known as “Old Town” and “Eastcott”. Some individual responses noted that Bath Road, the current ward boundary, is not a community boundary. It is also not clear at what points Eastcott residents cease to be in Old Town and associate more with the Town Centre. On that basis, it is not considered that a separate Eastcott Parish would either secure more effective and convenient community

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governance within the area or better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.

- 1.32 While the comments of Chiseldon Parish Council are noted, it is considered that Badbury Park is a distinct community from the rest of Chiseldon and has greater links with the surrounding parts of the Swindon urban area. It is noted that in the future Badbury Park may be large enough to provide effective and convenient local governance, to complement its growing sense of community identity, the current size of the parish suggests it would not be viable and would not either secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area or better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area. Cabinet considers that the presence of Badbury Park in a new Swindon South Central Parish would help ensure the effectiveness of that parish and better reflect the community identity of that area.
- 1.33 Given the feedback at this stage of the consultation, it is suggested that a large single parish for central Swindon south of the railway line would best secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.34 Members are also invited to note the responses concerning Wichelstowe, which are set out below in relation to the Wroughton parish.
- 1.35 The Borough Council suggests that due to the size of the proposed parish, it would be sensible and practicable to create wards for the new parish and it is considered that there should be a parish council of 23 members, and the proposed warding arrangements reflect the current borough council wards and polling districts as set out below.

Recommendations:

- 1.36 *Central Swindon South/ South parishes* - That the Council not proceed with the creation of separate Central Swindon South, and South Swindon Parishes for the reasons outlined above.
- 1.37 *Central Swindon South parish* – That a new Central Swindon South parish be created covering the Swindon Borough Council wards of Central, Eastcott, Old Town, and Walcot and Park North, along with the LEA and LED polling districts of Park South, and the CLA and CLC polling districts from the Chiseldon and Lawn ward on the basis that this would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.38 That the new parish have a parish council comprising 23 councillors and that the new parish be divided into six wards to reflect the distribution of communities within it, as set out below:
 - 1.38.1 Lawn and Badbury Park ward covering the CLA and CLC polling districts with 3 parish councillors.

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- 1.38.2 Old Town ward covering the present Old Town Swindon Borough Council ward with 4 parish councillors.
- 1.38.3 Central ward covering the present Swindon Borough Council Central ward with 5 parish councillors.
- 1.38.4 Eastcott ward covering the Swindon Borough Council Eastcott ward with 5 parish councillors.
- 1.38.5 Park South ward covering the LEA and LED polling districts with 2 parish councillors and
- 1.38.6 Walcot & Park North ward covering the Swindon Borough Council Walcot & Park North ward with 4 parish councillors.

Chiseldon

- 1.39 The Stage Three consultation yielded 1 submission to combine Lawn and Badbury Park in the same parish, 1 submission to retain Coate and Badbury Park in Chiseldon, 2 submissions opposing the creation of a Badbury Park parish, 3 submissions to retain Chiseldon in its current boundaries and 4 submissions to create a separate Badbury Park parish. Consultations undertaken by the Badbury Park Residents' Association indicated support for a separate parish with joining a South Swindon parish as the second preference. Details of this submission were attached at Appendix Three to the 19th October 2016 Cabinet report (Appendix Two to the Council report).
- 1.40 Chiseldon Parish Council made a formal submission, included at Appendix Three to the 19th October 2016 Cabinet report (Appendix Two to the Council report) stating that its opposition to dividing the parish. There were 39 responses out of a possible 300 houses with 30 in favour of remaining in Chiseldon and 9 for belonging to a South Swindon parish.
- 1.41 While the comments of Chiseldon Parish Council are noted, it is considered that Badbury Park is a distinct community from the rest of Chiseldon and has greater links with the surrounding parts of the Swindon urban area and so in order to better secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, Cabinet is of the view that Badbury Park should be transferred to the proposed Central Swindon South parish.
- 1.42 Cabinet is not minded at this time, however, to recommend creating a separate Badbury Park parish as the area, which has still not been fully developed with housing, would lack the means to provide convenient and effective local governance.
- 1.43 As Chiseldon Parish Council has not requested any reduction in its membership should Badbury park be transferred out of Chiseldon, it is not recommended that there be any change in the number of parish councillors on Chiseldon parish council.

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Recommendations:

- 1.44 *Chiseldon parish* - That the Badbury Park part of Chiseldon parish (polling district CLC) be transferred to a new Central Swindon South parish but leave all other borders unchanged as this would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.45 That Chiseldon Parish Council retains its 15 parish councillors and that the Badbury ward remain unchanged with one member, and 14 members for the amended Chiseldon ward.

Covingham

- 1.46 There was 1 submission to group the Nythe and Covingham parishes, 1 and 1 submission to merge Covingham, Eldene, Liden and Nythe in a single parish.
- 1.47 Covingham Parish Council has declined to proceed with any grouping arrangements as it believes it would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area in its present configuration.

Recommendation:

- 1.48 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Covingham and that Covingham Parish Council retains its 15 parish councillors.

Hannington

- 1.49 No recommendations for changes were received from the Parish Council or other residents.

Recommendation:

- 1.50 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Hannington and that Hannington Parish Council retains its five parish councillors.

Haydon Wick

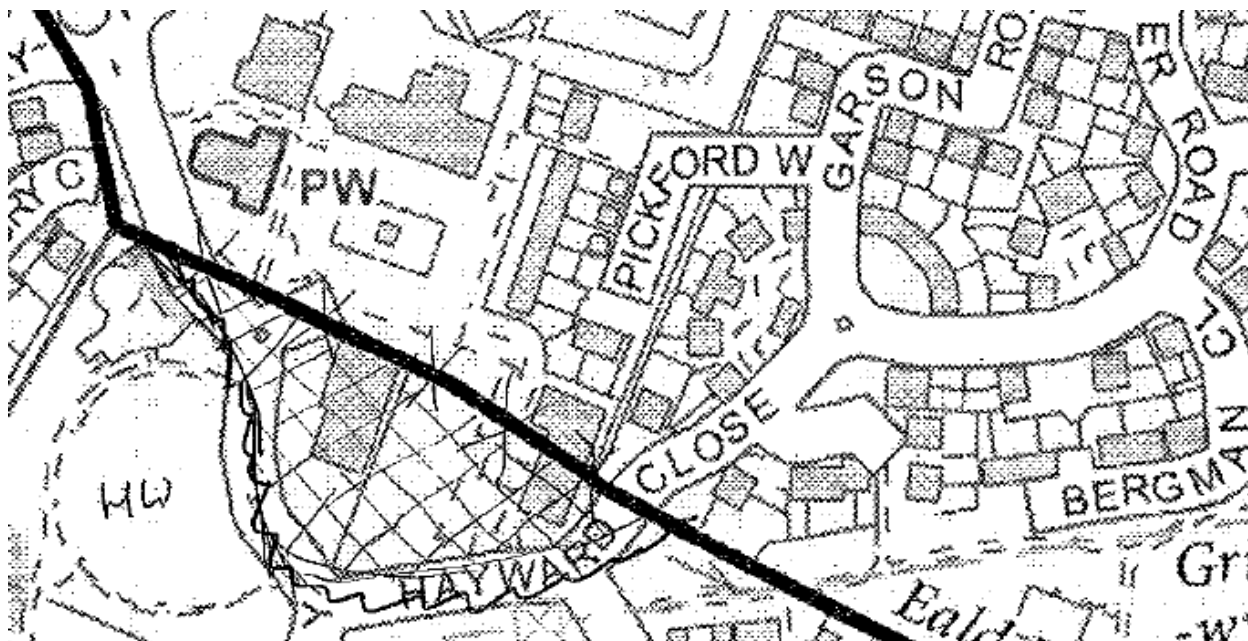
- 1.51 In addition to evidence presented at Stages One and Two, there was 1 submission to create a Blunsdon parish and to expand Haydon Wick parish, 3 submissions to include all of Penhill in Haydon Wick parish, and 4 submissions to include Haydon View, currently in the Rodbourne Cheney ward. Haydon View Community Association also made a submission calling for Haydon View Road, Eastville Road, Sunningdale Road, Mendip Close, and Orchid Close to be included within the Haydon Wick boundaries.
- 1.52 Haydon Wick parish also made a submission, included at Appendix Three to the 19th October 2016 Cabinet report (Appendix Two of the Council report), setting out:
- 1.52.1 The desire to include Haydon View,

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- 1.52.2 Changing the parish boundary through Abbeymeads to ensure consistent service delivery and accountability, and
- 1.52.3 Amending the parish ward boundaries to remove the single Member Ray ward.
- 1.53 The existing Haydon Wick parish has a record of delivering effective and convenient community governance within the area and reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area on its current boundaries.
- 1.54 Cabinet was of the view that there was insufficient evidence that the whole of Penhill has shared community interests with Haydon Wick to suggest that including that area in Haydon Wick parish would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.55 Members noted that Haydon Wick Parish Council had indicated its willingness to accept the area identified by the Haydon View Residents' Association, with the inclusion of part of Whitworth Road to make for an easily identifiable and recognisable boundary.
- 1.56 Haydon Wick Parish Council has also indicated its willingness to accept all of Abbey Meads, which 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.
- 1.57 However, Members noted that the area of Abbey Meads would lie in a St Andrews parish if Members choose to continue to proceed with creating one. The area is clearly identified on the map supporting the petition to create St Andrews as belonging to the new parish, not being transferred to Haydon Wick.
- 1.58 A Haydon Wick borough ward councillor also highlighted the anomaly that the present Haydon Wick/Blunsdon St Andrew cuts through buildings in the Abbey Meads village centre, which creates confusion about the responsibility for that area thus undermining efficient and effective community governance. Discussion between that councillor and the lead petitioner to create a St Andrew parish have produced the following proposed minor adjustment, to move the parish boundary southwards as set out in the map below and align it with Elstree Way/Hayward Close).

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Figure 2 Adjustment of boundary through Abbey Meads village centre



Recommendations:

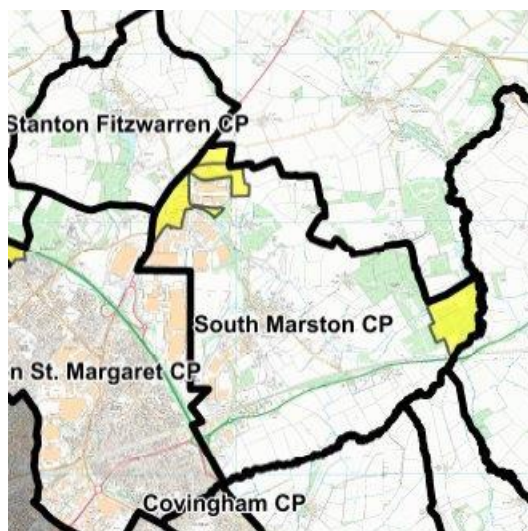
- 1.59 Haydon Wick Parish – That the boundaries be adjusted to Elstree Way/Hayward Close so that Abbey Meads village centre falls entirely within a single parish namely the proposed St Andrews parish and that the boundaries be extended to include the Haydon View part of polling district GPA – Haydon View Road, Mendip Close, Orchid Close, and Sunningdale Road and part of north side of Whitworth Road (Claremont Court to No. 68), as the evidence from the residents' association and the Parish Council, indicates that any change would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.60 That the parish be divided into two wards to reflect the distribution of communities within it, as set out below:
- 1.60.1 Haydon Wick ward remains as it is with 9 parish councillors, and
- 1.60.2 Haydon End ward has the former Ray Ward (polling district PVD) added to it, and will comprise 9 parish councillors.

Highworth

- 1.61 Highworth Town Council and South Marston Parish Council have reached mutual agreement to transfer the Rowborough area from Highworth to South Marston as illustrated below. Cabinet has been minded to support such transfers where the parish councils themselves are in agreement.

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Figure 3 Adjustment of boundary between Highworth and South Marston



Recommendation:

- 1.62 Highworth – that the area known as Rowborough as marked on the map above be transferred to South Marston parish as this would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area. It is further recommended that there be no change to the number of town councillors and that the town council retains its 15 councillors and remain not warded.

Inglesham

- 1.63 No recommendations for changes were received from any residents.

Recommendation:

- 1.64 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Inglesham and that the Parish remains without a parish council.

Liddington

- 1.65 Liddington Parish Council made a submission requesting an increase in the number of parish councillors from seven to eight. However, there was no supporting evidence as to how this change would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area. In addition, it is believed that there has not been a contested parish election in Liddington for some years.

Recommendation:

- 1.66 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Liddington and that Liddington Parish Council retains its 7 parish councillors.

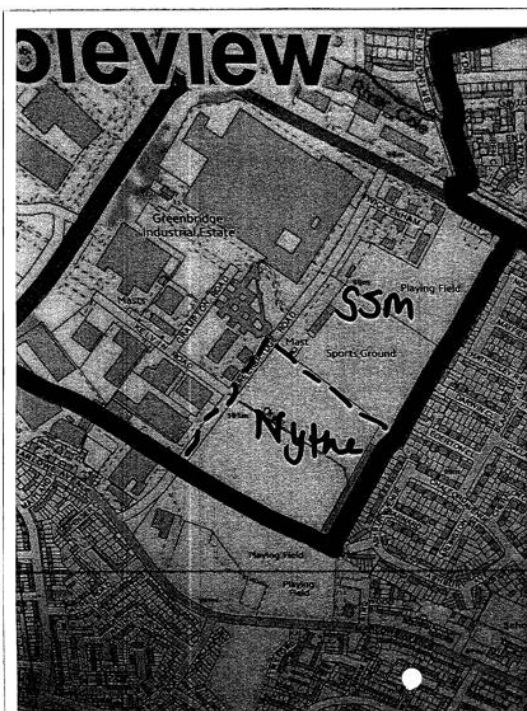
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Nythe, Eldene and Liden

- 1.67 Most of the submissions regarding the east of the borough have been generally supportive of extending Nythe parish. There was 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, and 1 submission to merge Covingham, Eldene, Liden and Nythe in a single parish.
- 1.68 There was a specific request to move the parish boundary from West View Road to Greenbridge Road to include the Nythe allotments and to move the north west boundary from the hedge row through the Oakfield site to Marlowe Road so the whole area is in one parish. While no residential properties would be affected, the submission contends that such a change would help to secure more effective and convenient community governance by giving Nythe Parish ownership of its allotments, which are currently within the Stratton St Margaret parish boundaries. It would also ensure more effective and convenient community governance for the Oakfield site by placing it entirely within a single parish and not dividing it between Nythe and Stratton St Margaret.
- 1.69 The parish councils of Nythe and Stratton St Margaret have reached mutual agreement to transfer the area of the Nythe allotments rented from Swindon Borough Council but currently situated within the boundaries of Stratton St Margaret be transferred to Nythe as illustrated in the map below. Cabinet has been minded to support such transfers where the parish councils themselves are in agreement.
- 1.70 The submissions relating to expanding the parish to cover Eldene and Liden support the view that this would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.

Recommendations to Council

Figure 4 Adjustment of boundary between Stratton St Margaret and Nythe



Recommendations:

- 1.71 *Nythe parish* – That the north eastern boundary be expanded to Greenbridge Road, to include the Nythe allotments, as shown in the map above and that the southern boundary of the parish be expanded to cover Eldene and Liden, presently in the CDE, LEC and LED polling districts. These changes would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.72 That Nythe Parish be re-named as Nythe, Liden and Eldene Parish and that it has 9 councillors.
- 1.73 That the parish be divided into three wards to reflect the distribution of communities within it, as set out below:
 - 1.73.1 Eldene ward covering the LEC polling district with 3 councillors,
 - 1.73.2 Liden ward covering the LED and CDE polling districts with 3 councillors, and
 - 1.73.3 Nythe ward covering the CDB polling district with 3 councillors.

South Marston

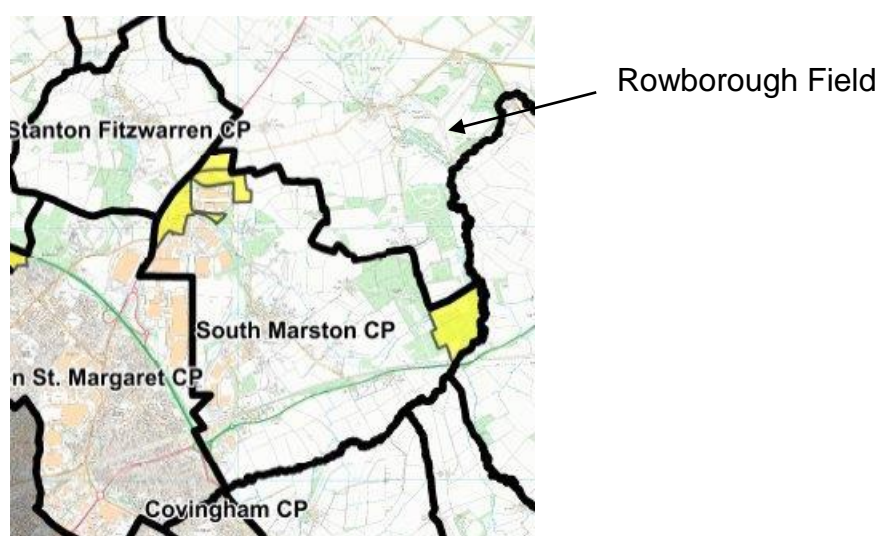
- 1.74 At Stage Two the Borough Council proposed straightening the border between South Marston and Stanton Fitzwarren to run along the A361 instead of through the Supermarine Industrial Estate. No recommendations for changes were received from the Parish Council or other residents. This change would not have

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affected any residents but would have provided more effective and convenient community governance within the area. However, as there has been no agreement between the two parishes as to this change, it is not recommended that this change be made.

- 1.75 Highworth Town Council and South Marston Parish Council have reached mutual agreement to transfer the Rowborough area from Highworth to South Marston as illustrated below.

Figure 5 Adjustment of boundary between Highworth and South Marston



Recommendation:

- 1.76 South Marston – that the area known as Rowborough as marked on the map above 1 be transferred to South Marston parish from Highworth as this would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area. It is further recommended that there be no other changes to the parish arrangements and that South Marston retains its 9 parish councillors

St Andrews

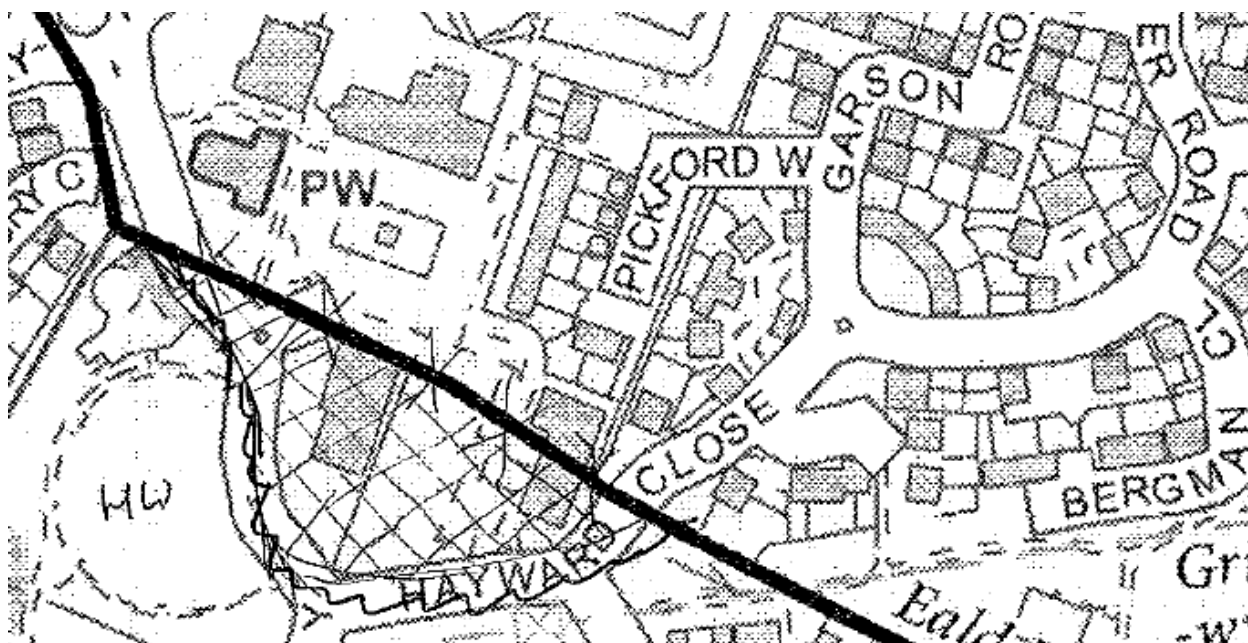
- 1.77 There was 1 submission to create a Blunsdon parish and to include the area covered by the Borough Council's St Andrews ward in an enlarged Haydon Wick parish. Following the earlier petition at Stage One of 899 in favour of dividing the current parish to create a new St Andrews parish with the A419, in effect, forming the eastern boundary, there were subsequent petitions of 390 signatures at Stage Two and 740 signatures at Stage Three opposing such a split. The initial petition favouring the split has been restated.
- 1.78 While there were no further submissions from local residents at this stage supporting the proposed change, the St Andrews Borough Council ward has clearly defined boundaries and encompasses an area with community identities that are distinct from that part of Blunsdon St Andrew that lies north east of A419.

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The remaining area around Broad and Lower Blunsdon would also retain a strong community identity and sufficient size to function as a parish.

A Haydon Wick ward councillor also highlighted the anomaly that the present Haydon Wick/Blunsdon St Andrew cuts through buildings in the Abbey Meads village centre, which creates confusion about the responsibility for that area thus undermining efficient and effective community governance. Discussion between that councillor and the lead petitioner to create a St Andrew parish have produced the following proposed minor adjustment, to move the parish boundary southwards as set out in the map below and align it with Elstree Way/Hayward Close).

Figure 6 Adjustment of boundary through Abbey Meads village centre



1.79

Recommendations:

- 1.80 *St Andrews Parish* - That the area south west of the A419 covering the SAA, SAB, SAC, SAD polling districts, together with the minor extension of the boundary through to Elstree Way/Hayward Close to include all of the Abbey Meads village centre, form a new St Andrew parish as this would better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and secure effective and convenient community governance within the area.
- 1.81 That the new parish have a parish council of 11 councillors, which is the number of councillors for the parish ward covering that area presently on Blunsdon St Andrew Parish Council, and it shall not be warded.

Stanton Fitzwarren

- 1.82 At Stage Two the Borough Council proposed straightening the border between South Marston and Stanton Fitzwarren to run along the A361 instead of through

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the Supermarine Industrial Estate. No recommendations for changes were received from the Parish Council or other residents. This change would not have affected any residents but would have provided more effective and convenient community governance within the area. However, as there has been no agreement between the two parishes as to this change it is not recommended that this change be made.

Recommendation:

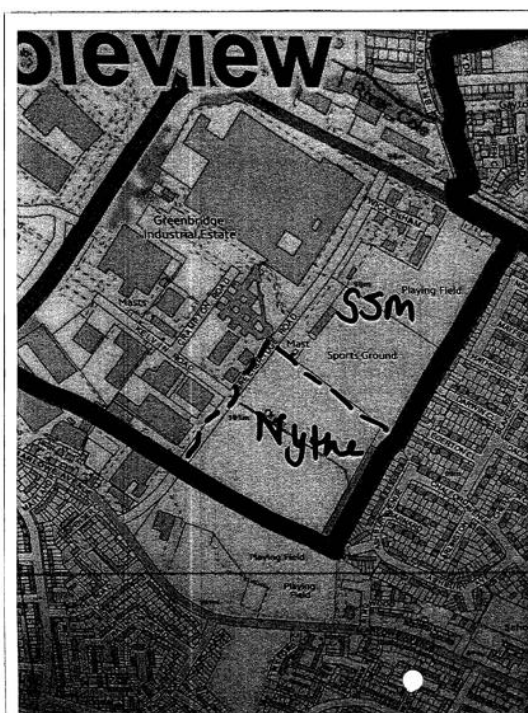
- 1.83 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Stanton Fitzwarren and that Stanton Fitzwarren Parish Council retains its five parish councillors.

Stratton St Margaret

- 1.84 At the Stage Two consultation, Stratton St Margaret parish council expressed a willingness to accept the Kingsdown parish ward contained within polling district PSD from the Blunsdon St Andrew parish. This polling district adjoins the rest of the Kingsdown area, which is in the Stratton Parish but no further evidence was provided.
- 1.85 Blunsdon St Andrew parish council has not given its consent to such a change and without mutual consent between parishes and no compelling evidence that the transfer would better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and secure effective and convenient community governance within the area, Cabinet has been minded to decline to impose changes.
- 1.86 There was a specific request to move the parish boundary from West View Road to Greenbridge Road to include the Nythe allotments and to move the north west boundary from the hedge row through the Oakfield site to Marlowe Road so the whole area is in one parish. While no residential properties would be affected, the submission contends that such a change would help to secure more effective and convenient community governance by giving Nythe Parish ownership of its allotments, which are currently within the Stratton St Margaret parish boundaries. It would also ensure more effective and convenient community governance for the Oakfield site by placing it entirely within a single parish and not dividing it between Nythe and Stratton St Margaret.
- 1.87 The parish councils of Nythe and Stratton St Margaret have reached mutual agreement to transfer the area of the Nythe allotments rented from Swindon Borough Council but currently situated within the boundaries of Stratton St Margaret be transferred to Nythe as illustrated in the map below. Cabinet has been minded to support such transfers where the parish councils themselves are in agreement.
- 1.88 As part of its Stage Two submission, Stratton St Margaret Parish Council did request reducing the number of councillors from 23 to 19 and no subsequent comments have been made on this request.

Recommendations to Council

Figure 7 Adjustment of boundary between Stratton St Margaret and Nythe



Recommendations:

- 1.89 *Stratton St Margaret parish* - That the area of the parish containing the Nythe allotments as set out in the map above be transferred to the Nythe Parish.
- 1.90 That the parish council be reduced to 19 members and that the 5 current wards remain unchanged and that the number of councillors per ward be as follows
 - 1.90.1 Lower Coleview ward (polling district CDA), 3 councillors instead of 4
 - 1.90.2 Merton ward (polling district GPC) no change with 1 councillor
 - 1.90.3 Upper Stratton ward (polling districts PSC, PSE, PSF, SME) 6 councillors instead of 7
 - 1.90.4 Lower Stratton ward (polling districts SMA and SMB) 6 councillors instead of 7
 - 1.90.5 Coleview ward (polling district SMC), 3 councillors instead of 4.

Wanborough

- 1.91 No recommendations for changes were received from the Parish council or other residents.

Recommendation:

- 1.92 That there be no change to the parish arrangements relating to Wanborough and that Wanborough Parish Council retains its 11 parish councillors.

Recommendations to Council

West Swindon

- 1.93 As part of Stage Three there were 7 submissions supporting the creation of a West Swindon parish and none stating explicit opposition.
- 1.94 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. The area has had a separate local news magazine – the Link – since 1978 that has reinforced the distinctive West Swindon community identity. Existing smaller geographical neighbourhoods are easily accommodated within the broader sense of identity.
- 1.95 The evidence at Stages One and Two of this process demonstrated a West Swindon parish would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area.
- 1.96 There was a further discussion of possible parish ward arrangements at a Community Governance Review Cabinet Member Advisory Group on 26th October 2016. At this meeting, the Cabinet Member for Communities stated she was minded to support the proposals from the Labour Group, especially the local knowledge of the ward councillors from the proposed parish area, relating to West Swindon setting out 7 wards as would better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area and secure effective and convenient community governance. These are as set out in the recommendations below.

Recommendations:

- 1.97 *West Swindon parish* - That a West Swindon parish be created consisting of the Borough Council wards of Lydiard and Freshbrook and Shaw, along with the MWB and MWC polling districts of the Mannington and Western ward.
- 1.98 That the new parish have a parish council comprising 15 councillors and that the new parish be divided into seven wards to reflect the distribution of communities within it, as set out below:
 - 1.98.1 Eastleaze and Shaw ward with 1 parish councillor covering the SHD polling district.
 - 1.98.2 Freshbrook ward with 2 parish councillors covering the LFC and LFE polling districts,
 - 1.98.3 Grange Park ward with 3 parish councillors covering the LFA and LFB polling,
 - 1.98.4 Middleaze and Ramleaze ward with 2 parish councillors covering the SHB and SHC polling districts,
 - 1.98.5 Peatmoor and Sparcells ward with 2 parish councillors covering the SHA and SHF polling districts'

Recommendations to Council

1.98.6 Toothill ward with 3 parish councillors covering the MWC and LFD polling districts

1.98.7 Westlea ward with 2 parish councillors covering the MWB and SHE polling districts.

Wroughton

- 1.99 As part of Stage Three there were 3 submissions to add Wichelstowe to Wroughton, 1 submission to add all of Wichelstowe to Old Town, 1 submission to create a Wichelstowe parish and 1 submission to put East Wichel in Wroughton. In addition, there were 3 submissions to leave the Wroughton boundaries unchanged and 2 submissions to add Wichelstowe to Wroughton.
- 1.100 The Wroughton parish has an established record of both reflecting community interest and in providing effective and convenient local governance, including being one of the pioneers in seeking devolved services from the Borough Council. Moreover, the current pace of development in Middle and West Wichel means that a stand-alone Wichelstowe parish would not be practicable at this time and, therefore, that Middle and West Wichel remain in Wroughton. As Middle and West Wichel are largely undeveloped, it is not considered that East Wichel has any particular community identity either with Middle and West Wichel other than the name, or with Wroughton and so it is not recommended that East Wichel be transferred into Wroughton parish.
- 1.101 The area known as Hay Lane Camp is presently in the Wroughton and Wichelstowe Borough Council ward as polling district WWA but not within Wroughton Parish. The area has no affinity to West Swindon as it lies in an enclave south of the M4 and north of the Swindon-Chippenham railway line. Its main road link is to Wroughton village centre. Accordingly, it is considered that the area should be transferred into Wroughton parish.

Recommendation:

- 1.102 Wroughton – that the areas within the WWA polling district be added to Wroughton parish as this would secure more effective and convenient community governance within the area and better reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area. It is recommended that there be no other change to the parish and community governance arrangements relating to Wroughton and that Wroughton Parish Council retains its 15 parish councillors and remains unwarded.