

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

ELECTORAL MATTERS COMMITTEE

29 September 2020

Community Governance Review for proposed new parish within the current Stoke Parish Area

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillors May, Leader and, Denaro Portfolio Holder for Finance and Enabling
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Claire Felton
Ward(s) Affected	Avoncroft, Rock Hill
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	Yes
Not a Key Decision	(Electoral Matters Committee has full devolved powers)

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 Members are asked to agree a letter and questionnaire for residents of Stoke Parish in regard to the Community Governance Review starting on 30 September 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked

to approve the letter and questionnaire, with any changes, for the Community Governance Review consultation (Appendix 1);

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 There will be a cost for the consultation exercise but this can be met from existing budgets.

Legal Implications

- 3.2 The Council has a responsibility to undertake a CGR in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (Part 4) and the associated Dept. of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Guidance on Community Governance Reviews, the Local Government (Parishes and Parish Councils) Regulations 2008 and the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended). The authority must have regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State (s100 (4) of the 2007 Act) and must give consideration to the views of local people in reaching its decision.

3.4 Section 93 of the 2007 Act sets out the council's duties in undertaking a community governance review. In relation to deciding what recommendations to make, it provides that the council must have regard to the need to secure that community governance within the area under review:

- a) reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area, and
- b) is effective and convenient.

Section 93 (6) provides that the council must "take into account" any representations received in connection with the review as one element of these considerations.

Service/Operational Implications

3.6 At the meeting of this Committee on 3 September it was agreed that the Committee would meet again to discuss the consultation for residents and agree the wording of the documents to be sent out. The consultation letter and questionnaire for consideration are set out in Appendix 1.

3.8 Once the consultation documents are agreed officers will commence the publicity and consultation stages.

Customer/Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.7 None.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 The Act requires that the CGR must be completed within 12 months of the validation of the petition. It is recommended that the consultation starts by 14 October to allow all steps to be completed within the 12 month timeframe and to allow for delays due to COVID-19.

5. APPENDICES

- 1 Consultation letter and questionnaire.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- DCLG Guidance
- Relevant Statutory provisions

7. KEY

N/A

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