

REPORT TITLE: MOVING TOWARDS A NEW PARISH FOR WINCHESTER – AN UPDATE

23 MARCH 2017

WARD(S): SOUTHWICK AND WICKHAM/DENMEAD/WATERLOO/STAKES ROAD

PURPOSE

To consider the attached letter from the West of Waterlooville Advisory Group entitled: 'Moving towards a new parish for Winchester – an update' which requests consideration of a Community Governance Review.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the letter be noted

APPENDICES:

Letter from Councillor Neil Lander-Brinkley dated 14 March 2017 on behalf of the West of Waterlooville Advisory Group.

**Report from the
West of Waterlooville Advisory Group**

Moving towards a new parish for Winchester – an update

Since it was set up in 2012, the Advisory Group has been clear that when circumstances were right, it would petition Winchester City Council to set up a new parish to serve the developments in Denmead and Southwick & Purbrook Parishes in the area known as 'West of Waterlooville'. The process is called a Community Governance Review (CGR) and is set out in local government legislation.

In recent years DCLG have been supportive of setting up new parishes and have made the process easier. Since 2010 around a dozen new parishes have been created up every year. Three quarters of these have been the result of splitting existing parishes and changing parishes, so the process is not a new one. The start here at WoW was delayed while the boundaries of the wards involved were revised as part of the Local Government Boundary Commission's review of Winchester City Council district. Whilst that was happening, WoWAG developed and agreed a detailed plan.

This year work has been begun in earnest. A proposal was sent to Howard Bone, the Head of Legal Services on 7th February 2017. A meeting to discuss the action currently being taken, and the CGR, was sought. Whilst the e-mail has been acknowledged that meeting has not yet been held, however we are confident that a date for the meeting will be fixed very soon.

In practical terms the approval of the residents has been sought, with signatures to a petition being collected. After a residents meeting and one Saturday which members of WoWAG spent collecting signatures, we have achieved over 70% of the number of electors required by the legislation, to trigger the Review. Once the total petition is complete, it will be presented to the City Council, along with the required background documents (including a map of the area involved and a statement of justification) and that will trigger the process of the Governance Review which, by law, WCC will have a year to carry out.

Of course, WoWAG are confident that there will be a successful outcome!

Cllr Neil Lander-Brinkley
14th March 2017