

# COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE AGENDA

Tuesday, 12 June 2018 at 07:15 PM

Council Chamber, Braintree District Council, Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 9HB

THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (Please note this meeting will be audio recorded)

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Members of the Community Governance Review Committee are requested to attend this meeting to transact the business set out in the Agenda.

### Membership:-

Councillor J Abbott Councillor Mrs J Pell

Councillor P Barlow Councillor Mrs W Schmitt (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs J Beavis Councillor R van Dulken
Councillor Mrs D Garrod Councillor Mrs S Wilson

Councillor Mrs J Money

Members unable to attend the meeting are requested to forward their apologies for absence to the Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or email <a href="mailto:governance@braintree.gov.uk">governance@braintree.gov.uk</a> by 3pm on the day of the meeting.

A WRIGHT
Chief Executive

### **INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS - DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

# Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, Other Pecuniary Interest or Non-Pecuniary Interest

Any member with a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, other Pecuniary Interest or Non-Pecuniary Interest must declare the nature of their interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Members must not participate in any discussion of the matter in which they have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or other Pecuniary Interest or participate in any vote, or further vote, taken on the matter at the meeting. In addition, the Member must withdraw from the chamber where the meeting considering the business is being held unless the Member has received a dispensation from the Monitoring Officer.

### **Question Time**

The Agenda allows for a period of up to 30 minutes when members of the public can speak. Members of the public wishing to speak are requested to register by contacting the Governance and Members Team on 01376 552525 or email <a href="mailto:governance@braintree.gov.uk">governance@braintree.gov.uk</a> no later than 2 working days prior to the meeting. The Council reserves the right to decline any requests to register to speak if they are received after this time. Members of the public can remain to observe the public session of the meeting.

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### **Health and Safety**

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### **Mobile Phones**

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### **Webcast and Audio Recording**

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### **Documents**

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PUBLIC SESSION Page

### 1 Apologies for Absence

### 2 Declarations of Interest

To declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, other Pecuniary Interest, or Non-Pecuniary Interest relating to Items on the Agenda having regard to the Code of Conduct for Members and having taken appropriate advice where necessary before the meeting.

### 3 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Governance Review Committee held on 29th November 2017 (copy previously circulated).

### 4 Public Question Time

(See paragraph above)

### 5 Community Governance Review Background

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### 6 Urgent Business - Public Session

To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

### 7 Exclusion of the Public and Press

To agree the exclusion of the public and press for the consideration of any Items for the reasons set out in Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

At the time of compiling this Agenda there were none.

PRIVATE SESSION Page

### 8 Urgent Business - Private Session

To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in private by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

### **Community Governance Review** Committee 12 June 2018



**Community Governance Review Background** Agenda No: 5

Portfolio **Overall Corporate Strategy and Direction** 

**Corporate Services and Asset Management** 

A high performing organisation that delivers excellent **Corporate Outcome:** 

and value for money services

Delivering better outcomes for residents and businesses

and reducing costs to taxpayers

lan Hunt, Head of Governance Report presented by:

Report prepared by: Steve Daynes,

### **Background Papers:**

Local Government and Public Involvement and Health Act 2007

Statutory guidance provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government (March 2010). Agenda and Minutes Community Governance Review

Committee 12 July 2017

Agenda and Minutes Council 24th July 2017

Agenda and Minutes Community Governance Review

Committee 29 November 2017

Agenda and Minutes Council 11 December 2017

### **Public Report**

**Key Decision: No** 

### **Executive Summary:**

At its meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017 the Council adopted the formal terms of reference for the Community Governance Review (CGR). The Initial Public Consultation ran from the 1<sup>st</sup> August to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and during this period, a total of 99 individual and organisational representations were received. In addition a petition representing 152 households was also submitted.

Representations made on both the Initial consultation and four additional sites were considered by the CGR committee at their meeting on 29 November 2017 and Draft proposals supported by Council on 11 December 2017.

Draft proposals were subject to a further period of public consultation between 1 January and 28 February 2018.

This report sets out the 35 new representations made against the Draft proposals and seeks the Committees recommendations to Council for the publication of the Final Recommendations.

### **Recommended Decision:**

- 1. To make recommendations to Council on each of the proposed changes to Community Governance for inclusion in the Council's Final Recommendations.
- 2. To seek Council authority for related Consequential review representations to Local Government Boundary Commission for England.
- 3. To seek Council authority for Related Amendment representations to Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

### **Purpose of Decision:**

To confirm the Council's Final Community Governance review proposal for submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

Corporate Implications	
Financial:	There is no specific budgetary provision however given that consultation will, in the main be limited to direct mailing to smaller communities no additional budgetary allocation will be sought at this stage.
Legal:	Review to be conducting in line with Local Government and Public Involvement and Health Act 2007 and statutory guidance provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government.
Safeguarding:	None
Equalities/Diversity:	Legislation requires each Polling District has a dedicated polling place. Any review therefore must ensure that adequate Polling arrangements can be provided.
Customer Impact:	To be considered as part of the review.
Environment and Climate Change:	None
Consultation/Community Engagement:	The consultation will ensure that all stakeholders have appropriate access.
Risks:	Risks will be managed in accordance with the project plan.
Officer Contact:	Steve Daynes
Designation:	Democracy Manager
Ext. No:	2751
E-mail:	steve.daynes@braintree.gov.uk

### 1.0 Background

- 1.0.1 At their meeting on 29 November 2017 members of the of the Community Governance Review (CGR) Committee considered Public responses to the Initial phase of the 2017 CGR and presented to Council Draft proposals for further consultation.
- 1.0.2 The Draft consultation opened on 1 January 2018 and closed on 28 February 2018 and was conducted in accordance with the proposals agreed by Committee. New representations are now presented to Members for their consideration
- 1.0.3 For convenience, the report retains the same site by site structure and incorporates a summary of the Initial and Draft consultations together with electoral statistical data.
- 1.0.4 Members are asked to consider representations submitted as part of the Draft consultation and provide Council with Final recommendations for consideration.
- 1.0.5 Contained within the report are a number of "consequential reviews" which require Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) approval and the final Community Governance Order will therefore be subject to their approval.
- 1.0.6 Members are advised therefore that any changes to the following Parish boundaries will require LGBCE to grant consent to proposals as these directly impact on their 2014 Principal Area review recommendations which are protected for a period of 5 years and can only be amended following a further "consequential review" by them:

Agenda Item 6 South Witham/Hatfield Peverel

Agenda Item 8 Eastways

Agenda Item 9 Oak Road

Agenda Item 10 Land East of Sudbury Road

Agenda Item 17 Stones Farm

- 1.0.7 Agenda Item 7 Forest Road/Rivenhall Members are advised that the final consultation period of the 2018 Review of Parliamentary Boundaries closed on 11 December 2017. This will result in loss of coterminosity with Principal and Parish boundaries but is an inevitable consequence of developments which either adjoin or cross these boundaries. In the case of this development electors will, if approved by LGBCE, be represented by Witham District and Town Councillors. However Parliamentary representation will be transferred to the proposed Braintree Parliamentary constituency.
- 1.0.8 Agenda Item 4 **Braintree Green -** Should Members support the proposal it is suggested that, for electoral clarity, representation be

made to the LGBCE for a consequential review of the Principal area boundary so as to maintain boundaries which are coterminous.

### 1.1 The next stages

- 1.1.1 **Full Council (23 July 2018) -** consideration of committee recommendations and determination of Final recommendations.
- 1.1.2 Council to seek LGBCE consent (proposed draft at Appendix 1) for:
  - The review of an area reviewed by them within the previous 5 years.
  - Consequential reviews of Parish boundaries
  - > Related alterations so as to maintain boundaries which coterminous
- 1.1.3 Preparation of Community Governance Order (Halstead and Witham) for the consent of LGBCE.
- 1.1.4 Preparation of **Community Governance Order (Braintree District)** for the remaining issues not requiring consent.
- 1.1.5 **December 2018 -** Boundary changes established and implemented
- **1.1.6** May 2019 New electoral arrangements implemented.

### 2.0 Great Saling/Bardfield Saling

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
2.0.1	To extend the Parish boundary of Great Saling to include the unparished area of Bardfield Saling	To extend the Parish boundary of Great Saling to include the unparished area of Bardfield Saling	
2.0.2	Increase number of Parish Councillors from 5 to 6	Increase number of Parish Councillors from 5 to 6	
2.0.3	Rename "The Salings Parish Council"	Rename "The Salings Parish Council"	

### 2.1 Consultees

- a) Great Saling Parish Council
- b) Individual contact letters to Bardfield Saling households

### 2.2 Electorate statistics

a) Households – Bardfield Saling – 75

Great Saling - 148

b) Electors – Bardfield Saling - 153 Great Saling - 260

### 2.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

2.3.1 No further comments

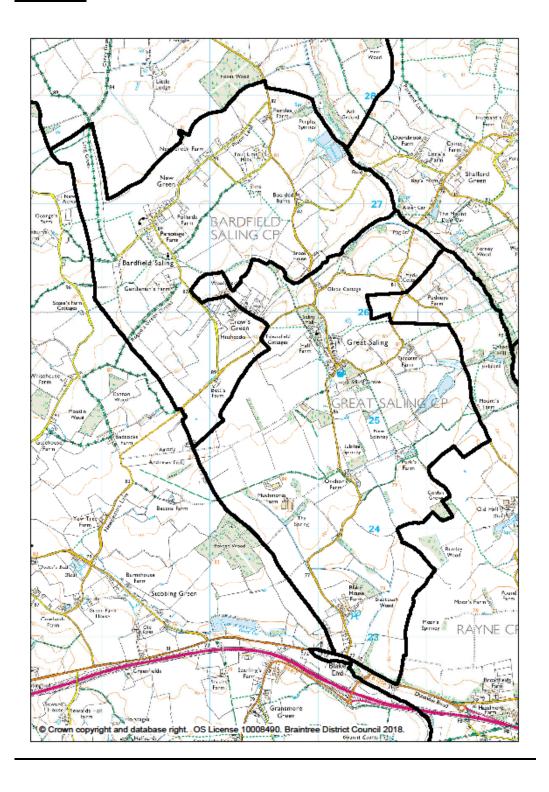
# 2.4 Returning Officer comments

### 2.4.1 No further comments

### 2.5 Representations

Cathryn Carlisle Herkstead Green Bungalow Cornish Hall End Braintree Essex	I think Bardfield Saling would benefit, being part of a larger parish. New comers already contact Great Salings clerk with problems, not knowing that Bardfield Saling has a clerk
Michael Baker Merle Cottage 13Grove Villas Gt Saling Essex CM7 5DX	I have no objects but think it is up to the residents of Bardfield Saling to decide if the want to join with Gt Saling.
Diane Greenwood 20 Grove Villas Great Saling CM7 5DX	On balance it seems to be a logical progression as the two villages are already linked.  I believe that Bardfield Saling would benefit from greater inclusion in the local government process; for example a greater representation in matters that come under the purview of a Parish Council. There is already one Parish Councillor from Bardfield Saling on the Gt Saling PC.
Philip O'Reilly Hi Trees, New Green Bardfield Saling, CM75EG	Following the comments made by M George Holmbury, New Green, Bardfield Saling. It needs to be made clear to ALL what the cost (financial) will be to each home owner once a joint Parish Council was set up.

# 2.6 Maps



### 3.0 Great Notley

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
3.0.1	That the Great	That the initial consultation	
	Notley Parish boundary be	be revised	
	extended to include the currently unparished area of Braintree bounded by Queenborough Lane, the B1256 (BY-PASS)/ A120 and London	That the boundary of Great Notley Parish Council be extended to include the currently unparished area of Braintree to the west of the Public Footpath / Public Right of Way from a point where it crosses Queenborough Lane through to the A120 and bounded by the A120.	
	Road	For the avoidance of doubt the unparished area to the east of the Footpath / Public Right of Way bounded by the A120 to the north and London Road to the East would remain part of the unparished area of Braintree.	

### 3.1 Consultees

- a) Great Notley Parish Council
- b) Individual contact letters to all households within the area identified
- c) Great Notley Parish Council

### 3.2 Electorate statistics

	Households	Electors
Braintree (Maylands)	334	729

### 3.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

3.3.1 One of the overriding principals of any Community Governance Review is the identification of a cohesive Communities and their reflection in the local boundaries.

# 3.4 Returning Officer comments

3.4.1 The Returning Officer is content with the revised draft proposal as outlined.

# 3.5 Representations

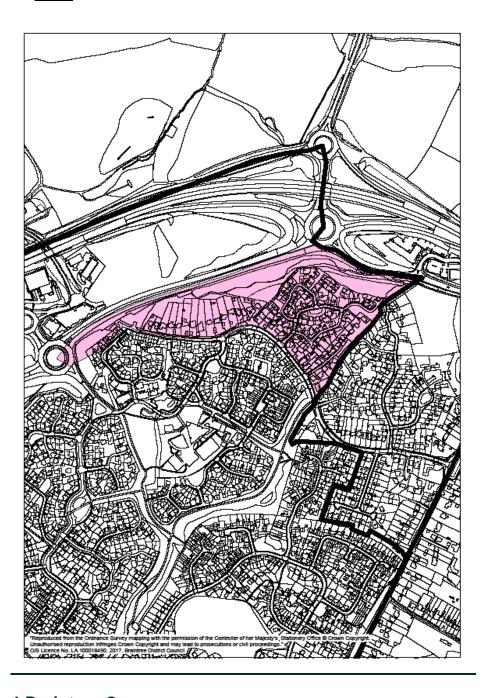
Great Notley Parish Council 7 Mallard Close, Great Notley Braintree Essex	Great Notley Parish Council supports the proposal that the boundary of Great Notley Parish be extended to include the currently unparished area of Braintree to the west of the public footpath from a point where it crosses Queenborough Lane marked 'Area A' on the map. It should be noted that the map shows the boundary of the proposed extension to the Parish as being the A131 on one side and the slip road being the A1256 on the other, whereas the wording of the proposal states that the A120 is the boundary. The Parish Council is in agreement with the extended Parish boundary as shown on the map and being the A131 and A1256 as this makes sense from an administrative perspective. The Parish Council supports this proposal as the residents of 'area A' are to all intents and purposes part of the Parish and use Parish facilities and the proposal will more accurately reflect the Great Notley community.
Mr Patrick Wheeler 7 Jay Close Braintree Essex CM77 7GJ	I thoroughly endorse the revised proposals in which the 'Maylands' area south of Braintree is removed from the proposal to join the Great Notley parish. The area as designated on the map associated with the revised proposal is entirely sensible and reasonable given the split between the older established community and the newer building down Queenborough Lane. It is gratifying to feel that the representations made to the council have been carefully and thoughtfully considered.
Jonathan Barrow 3 Oaklands Close Braintree Essex	I am writing to you to show my support for your proposal for the inclusion of the area west of the public footpath where it crosses Queenborough Lane through to the A120 - 'Area A'.  I am very pleased that, despite the considerable efforts of some closed minded individuals, the council has seen that this proposal makes sense. In rounding off the parish boundary, the council makes fair the existing reliance on those services provided by the parish council for dwellers of 'Area A'. Additionally with the A120 'split' already existing, the rounding off of the parish envelope geographically also makes sense.  If there is anything i can do to assist with the successful conclusion of this proposal, I am at your disposal.
Brett Oxford 38 Queenborough Lane	As a resident of Queenborough Lane/Maylands for nearly 15 years I do not see the need for Queenborough Lane/Maylands to be included as part of Great Notley Parish

Braintree	Council. It hasn't caused any problems not being part of it & I am personally happy with things the way they are.
D.V and S.M Robinson 1 Springmead Braintree Essex CM77 1PX	We note from the plan on the reverse of your communication dated December 2017 and following a visit to your Office to see more of the revised plan, we write to say that we are satisfied that 'Springmead' IS EXCLUDED from the proposal to extend the boundary of the Great Notley village and look forward to hearing of the settlement of this matter.
Gordon Compton 1 Oaklands Close Braintree Cm77 7pz	I accept the changes as I get what I required, to belong to Braintree which I have for the last 43years and not part of Great Notley which will never be part of my life
Stephen Sadler 48 Chestnut Avenue Great Notley CM77 7YJ	I fully support the proposed changes. They appear to be rational and properly thought through. There is nothing in the proposal to which I would wish to object.
C. H. Ludar – Smith Springmead, Braintree	I have already written to the council (TWICE) concerning the imposition of an un- wanted and NOT needed NOTLEY on my home at Springmead, Braintree
Tony Eve, John Pike & Sid Quattrucci Greenway Gardens Braintree	The proposal made at the Community Governance Review Committee meeting on 29th November makes good sense in relation to the outcome of the surveys we undertook in 2012 and last September.  While the latest survey confirms the overwhelming resistance east of Washall Drive to being included in Great Notley, in 2012 we found that to the west there was a two thirds / one third majority in favour of being included in the parish. For that reason we did not repeat the survey in that area last September.  This proposal, therefore, comes close to being in line with the views of the residents of the two areas and we therefore support it.
Richard Smith Greenway Gardens Braintree	As residents of Greenway Gardens we have always objected to any proposal to include this road and adjoining areas within the Great Notley parish boundary as we get the services we need direct from the district council, so support this revised proposal.
Brine	We are pleased to note the proposed amendment to the original proposal by Gt Notley Parish Council which would now seem to concur with the findings of a couple of surveys by local residents across the areas concerned.  We have never felt any affinity whatsoever with Gt Notley and have no interest in so doing. We have generally been well served by BDC since moving here in 1975 and, having considered Gt Notley's case for 'adopting' us, can see no benefit from joining them.  I hope that this will see an end to the regular re-raising of this issue by Gt Notley PC which must have cost BDC appreciable and ill affordable time and cost over the years,

	particularly in this time of austerity.
G. Brine	I am very pleased with the resultant decision and hope it is
Queenborough Lane	not raised again

# 3.6 Appendix Maps

# <u>3.6.1</u>



# 4 Braintree Green

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
4.0.1	That the area known	That the area known	

locally as Braintree	locally as Braintree	
Green be included within	Green be included	
the Rayne Parish	within the Rayne	
Boundary	Parish Boundary	

### **4.1Commentary and Legislative Appraisal**

4.1.1 No further comments

### **4.2 Returning Officer comments**

4.2.1 It is suggested that, for clarity, further representation be made to the LGBCE for a consequential review of the Principal area boundary so as to maintain boundaries which are coterminous, if this proposal is supported.

### 4.3 Representations

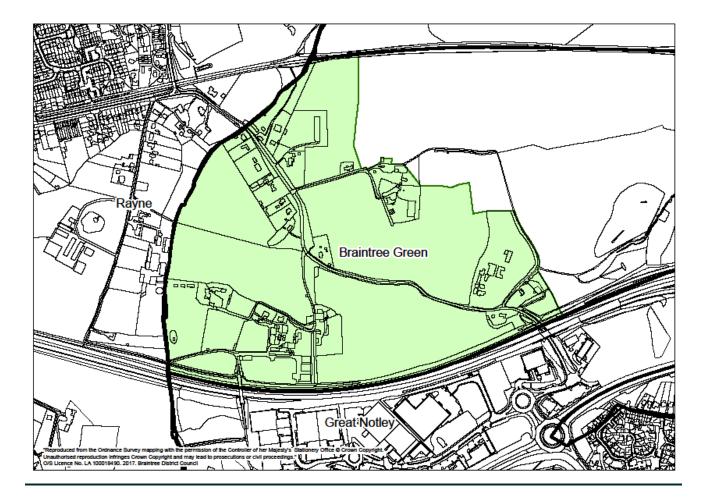
Dr. Neville Prior Turners Queenborough Lane CM77 6TB	We live at Turners, Queenborough Lane, CM77 6TB, and so would be directly impacted by any increase of the Parish Boundary by Rayne Parish Council. In principle we would not object, but would like to register a concern that could cause us to reconsider that position. At present, Braintree Green and Rayne are deemed as separate villages, with a visible boundary of open land between them: the field next to Turners and the open land at Autumn Lodge. This boundary has been cited in two refusals of planning applications for the land on Autumn Lodge. We would assume that the change of Parish Boundary would have no effect on the status of Braintree Green as a separate village, in terms of future planning.
John Walker Tyefields Queenborough Lane Rayne Braintree Essex CM77 6TB	I agree with the proposal, already we receive the Rayne Parrish Magazine and to all intents and purposes we belong to Rayne. Most "look up" addresses give us as Rayne anyway.
John and Mary Cunningham Little Bishops Queenborough Lane, Braintree, Essex, CM77 6TF.	Little Bishops has been in my family since the early sixties, long before there was a Braintree by-pass and long before the village of Great Notley was developed and the construction of the A131 by pass which appears to have become a fixed boundary in this review. We are within a hamlet of three properties which are a considerable distance away from both Braintree Green and Rayne village and well outside the Rayne village sign. This property has always been part of Braintree and Bocking and we feel more aligned with them than we do with Rayne. We will not receive any of the benefits of being part of Rayne, that is no street lights, no pavements etc but we would be paying the

	precept for these advantages. Both of us in the household feel very strongly about this and we would very much like to reject the proposal of the boundary change and remain within the parish of Braintree and Bocking.
Dean Fierheller Greensleeves Braintree Green, Rayne, Essex, CM77 6TD	I object to the proposed boundary changes to make Braintree Green part of the Rayne Parish.
Mervyn R George. Sunningdale Braintree Green Rayne	Thank you for your letter/ plan giving outline details of the forthcoming Community Governance Review and inviting comments ref Braintree Green ,which I would outline as follows;
Braintree Essex CM77 6TD	Sunningdale has been our family home since it was built in 1934 and I have not known it any other way than Sunningdale Braintree Green Rayne, certainly not Sunningdale, Braintree Green, Braintree! as seems to be the current adopted trend
	I feel more akin to Rayne and in receipt of a more personal service should I ask for something definitely within Rayne parish, albeit Braintree may be less highly taxed.
	From the map shown it is not abundantly clear as to where the existing eastern boundary of Braintree Green extends and to where therefore the enlarged area of Rayne would become, as it would appear that Braintree Green is currently / effectively in no man's land between Rayne and Braintree (and is it Braintree Urban or Braintree Rural - if there still is one?) and how this is reflected in the precepts paid?
	Whatever, given that there is no standalone option, I feel Braintree Green should be included and operate as part of the Parish of Rayne - even the road sign on Queenborough Lane near Pear Tree Cottage says it should be so!!
	I look forward to hearing the outcome of your consultations.
Mr J & Mrs L Hogan. Stamfords, Braintree Green,	As residents of Stamfords, Braintree Green, we write to confirm our support for the proposed boundary change that would result in the area referred to as Braintree Green being included within the parish of Rayne.
	We regard the proposal as a positive one which would benefit the residents of Braintree Green.
	Thank you for the opportunity to comment,
J Krüger & M Selzer- Krüger Naylinghurst	We agree with the proposal.

Braintree Green	
Rayne	
Essex	
CM77 6TD	

# 4.4 Appendix Maps

# 4.4.1



# 5.0 Witham

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
5.0.1	To rename the following:  Witham (West ward) to Witham (Spa)  Witham (North ward) to Witham	That the ward names for: <ul> <li>Witham (West Ward),</li> <li>Witham (North Ward)</li> <li>Witham (South</li> </ul>	

(Rickstones) Ward)
<ul> <li>Witham (South ward) to Witham (Maltings)</li> <li>are retained and there is no change in the ward names.</li> </ul>

### **5.1 Consultees**

### a) Witham Town Council

### **5.2 Electorate statistics**

	Households	Electors
Witham (West ward)	2853	5123
Witham (North ward)	2918	5035
Witham (South ward)	2754	4729

### 5.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

5.3.1 No further comments

# **5.4 Returning Officer comments**

5.4.1 No further comments

### **5.5 Representations**

5.5.1 None

### 6.0 South Witham, Hatfield Peverel

Reference	Proposal (Initial	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
No	consultation)		
6.0.1	That the Witham	That the Witham	
	Parish boundary be	Parish boundary be	
	extended to include	extended to include	
	the development site	the development site	
	at Wood End Farm,	at Wood End Farm,	
	Witham	Witham, together with	
		the buildings of Wood	
		End Farm.	

### 6.1 Consultees

- a) Hatfield Peverel Parish Council
- b) Witham Town Council

c) Individual contact letters to all households within Hatfield Peverel

### 6.2 Electorate statistics

	Households	Electors
Hatfield Peverel	1854	3426

### 6.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

6.3.1 No further comments

### **6.4 Returning Officer comments**

6.4.1 Members are advised that any changes to the Parish boundaries will require the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to grant consent to proposals as these directly impact on previous recommendations following their Principal Area review in July 2014. The 2014 recommendations are protected for a period of 5 years and can therefore only be amended following a further "consequential review" by them.

### 6.5 Representations

Allison Horrell Combe Martin Maldon Rd Hatfield Peverel Essex CM3 2 HH	I write to strongly object to the development site at Wood End Farm being included in an extended Witham Town Boundary. I also object to any Boundary being "moved".  We cannot change boundaries just to tick a box and places or areas within the UK do not "move" as this is a physical impossibility.  With regard to the "objectively assessed housing need" this would not be a requirement had the government better policed immigration. This is not a racist statement but pure fact. A fact which people in power (or who think they have power) chose to ignore due to the madness of political correctness.  The people of this country, this county and Hatfield Peverel are suffering as a direct result of poor decision making.  Someone needs to take accountability for this instead of inflicting packed surgeries, schools and resources on local residents who work hard and pay their way.
Michael Lager 45 Chipping Hill Witham CM9 2JT	General – Over time with the significant expansion of Witham the existing boundaries have become unreflective of the local community with the rationale for those in the open country now completely absent. For instance the A12 Witham bypass should be a natural boundary yet having been built as a highway crosses and

recrosses both Rivenhall (at Coleman's bridge) and Hatfield Peverel (at the Witham South junction) parish boundaries.

The Council's proposals make no attempt to address this question. In the words of the

government's guidance document, it doesn't take the "... opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and remove the many anomalous parish boundaries that exist in England ". This does deserve consideration, not only to use this guidance but to ensure that one parish or another can handle issues arising at these boundaries, such as the physical junction structure (for instance its lighting, signage or maintenance). As a substantial parish council Witham Town Council is better placed to do this effectively than either of the much smaller parish councils. It would therefore be simplest and most effective for both junctions to be wholly located within Witham. With the modernisation plan for the A12 yet undecided the precise line may require further review at a later date.

### Witham South

Residents in these two areas will naturally look to Witham for their economic and social life and will be welcomed in the community in Witham. I therefore agree with the proposals for adjusting the boundary between Hatfield Peverel and Witham parishes, with the modification above. I note that this has no impact on the housing allocations proposed in the Local Plan as those at Lodge Farm and Woodend Farm are counted with the numbers for the Witham urban area.

### Mark Squire Town Clerk Witham Town Council

Following your recent letter regarding the Community Governance Review, the Town Council has again discussed representations.

Members asked that the importance of extending the parish boundary into Rivenhall, particularly in view of the proposed Parliamentary boundaries be stressed. The residents of these new homes would look to enjoy Witham's facilities but not be included in the Town Council's tax base.

# Wood End Farm development site should be included within the Witham boundary.

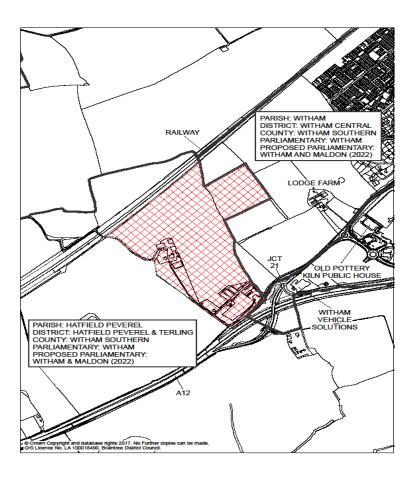
Members also considered that support should be given for the creation of a Braintree Town/Parish Council.

### Andrew Wood Wood End Farm CM8 1EH

I think that the council's proposed boundary amendment is a logical move, reflecting reality. (Living for almost sixty years in Hatfield Peverel has been an honour, but the Witham postcode gives us away)

# 6.6 Appendix Maps

### 6.6.1



# 7.0 Forest Road Witham/Rivenhall development site

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
7.0.1	That the Witham Parish boundary be extended to include the development site Forest Road/Rivenhall	That the Witham Parish boundary be extended to include the development site Forest Road/Rivenhall, but that there is no further amendment to the boundary at this time.	

### 7.1Consultees

- a) Rivenhall Parish Council
- b) Witham Town Council

c) Individual contact letters to all households within Rivenhall

### 7.2 Electorate statistics

	Households	Electors
Rivenhall	306	605

### 7.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

7.3.1 No further comments

### 7.4 Returning Officer comments

7.4.1 The Returning Officer supports proposals for consequential reviews of Principal and Town/Parish boundaries.

### 7.5 Representations

7.5.1 A number of representations related to multiple proposals, the elements which are considered linked to this proposal have been highlighted as bold text where there is a mixed response.

Jackie Allan 5 Foxmead Rivenhall End	The proposal to extend the Witham Central ward up the A12 towards Rivenhall End      Agree with including the Eastween industrial extens. It is do factor.
Witham Essex CM8 3HD	I agree with including the Eastways industrial estate. It is de facto part of the Witham industrial area. I do not agree with including the next field up to and including Burghey Brook. This will simply infill and the small green area between Rivenhall End and Witham will be further eroded. Rivenhall and Rivenhall End are very different in character to Witham, and proud of their own identity; it is important to preserve this.
	2. The proposal to extend the Witham Central ward north of the railway line to incorporate the new housing development and part of the golf course.
	I object to the extension of the Witham boundary - this opens the way for further building to erode the green belt between Witham and Rivenhall, and threatens to destroy the character of Rivenhall village by turning it into a suburb of Witham.
John Macrae	1. Extend the Witham Parish Boundary to include the new

Whitelands London Road Rivenhall End Essex CM8 3HA

### development site at Forest Road, Witham

### I strongly object to this proposal because:-

- Incorrect title: it should read ".... off Forest Road in Rivenhall". The official title is misleading and suggests that Rivenhall is already a part of Witham.
- envelopes for Rivenhall End and Rivenhall, that Rivenhall's community cannot expand sustainably: our children are forced to live outside the village due to no new homes being permitted within. The "Rivenhall Park" development should remain within the parish of Rivenhall so that residents can truly consider themselves part of our thriving, lively village community, not part of an increasingly sprawling urban conglomeration. This would give Rivenhall three village centres namely Rivenhall, Rivenhall Park and Rivenhall End.
- If BDC is mindful to increase the Witham boundary at this site, it should only be expanded to enclose the Rivenhall Park development that has current planning permission. All land outside that with current planning permission must be retained as a green buffer between Rivenhall and Witham to safeguard the dramatically different characters of those two settlements.
- 2. Extend the Witham Parish Boundary to include the Eastways Industrial Estate.

I strongly object to this proposal because:-

- Incorrect title: it should read ".... Waterside Business Park". It
  is only Waterside Business Park that currently (happily) lies
  within Rivenhall Parish. The published title is grossly
  misleading.
- I am aware that BDC intends to extend the Waterside Business Park one field width northwards towards Rivenhall End. There is absolutely no need for any boundary extension to include Burghey Brook Farm itself. This is a further example of Witham Town Council seeking an unnecessary land-grab.
- There is no tangible benefit in changing the parish within which an industrial area lies. If Waterside Business Park, Rivenhall must be extended then it should be permitted to expand within Rivenhall.
- Following the Essex County Structure Planning Enquiry some year back in which a local landowner (still the local landowner) sought to develop the area between Witham and Rivenhall End, the Inspector threw out the proposed land-use change on a planning precedent - the clear wishes of the two communities involved (Witham and Rivenhall) demonstrated

that both wished to remain independent and not be coalesced.

### Michael Lager 45 Chipping Hill Witham CM9 2JT

General – Over time with the significant expansion of Witham the existing boundaries have become unreflective of the local community with the rationale for those in the open country now completely absent. For instance the A12 Witham bypass should be a natural boundary yet having been built as a highway crosses and recrosses both Rivenhall (at Coleman's bridge) and Hatfield Peverel (at the Witham South junction) parish boundaries.

The Council's proposals make no attempt to address this question. In the words of the

government's guidance document, it doesn't take the "... opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and remove the many anomalous parish boundaries that exist in England ". This does deserve consideration, not only to use this guidance but to ensure that one parish or another can handle issues arising at these boundaries, such as the physical junction structure (for instance its lighting, signage or maintenance). As a substantial parish council Witham Town Council is better placed to do this effectively than either of the much smaller parish councils. It would therefore be simplest and most effective for both junctions to be wholly located within Witham. With the modernisation plan for the A12 yet undecided the precise line may require further review at a later date.

For the same reason, with the modification at Coleman's Bridge, I support Witham Town Council's proposal for adjusting the boundary between Witham and Rivenhall parishes. This brings the industrial area wholly into Witham (the existing boundary runs awkwardly between two factory buildings), as recognised by Rivenhall Parish Council. It brings the whole of the current development off Forest Road into the Witham parish: residents here will naturally look to Witham for services, employment and their social activities, as well as expecting to vote locally. They will expect to be able to exert an influence on their town council, and for this need to be within the Witham parish area.

The boundary can then be re-aligned to run along natural features such a field edges and existing paths, as advised in the guidance: "As far as boundaries between parishes are concerned, these should reflect the "no-man's land" between communities represented by areas of low population or barriers such as rivers, roads or railways. They need to be, and be likely to remain, easily identifiable."

The Witham parish boundary also needs to include the land between Forest Road alongside Rickstones Road up to Rectory Lane that is currently the subject of an application for erecting 72 houses at present in the Rivenhall parish area. The application appears likely to

obtain consent given the Council's need to show a five-year supply of housing land. As with the site off Forest Road, these new residents will also naturally look to Witham for services, employment and their social activities, as well as expecting to vote locally. They will expect to be able to exert an influence on their town council, and for this need to be within the Witham parish area. It is right that the boundary should be redrawn to include them in the Witham parish area. When discussing new housing development, the guidance notes that "This can often lead to existing parish boundaries becoming anomalous as new houses are built across the boundaries resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours."

North of Rickstones Road, the Council's proposals fail to consider the anomalous inclusion of the New Rickstones Academy site within Rivenhall Parish. It is clearly a Witham school, with most students coming from Witham, and it is a significant part of the Witham community, contributing to the town's educational, cultural and sporting life. This does need recognising by its inclusion in the Witham parish area. While there may be no residents affected, there may for example be planning issues to be considered, which should be done in Witham rather than Rivenhall. This boundary adjustment is, in the words of the guidance, needed "to bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services."

The decision about the Witham-Rivenhall boundary has greater significance as the parliamentary Boundary Commission uses local boundaries to build parliamentary constituencies (paragraph 29 of the guidance), and is at the moment considering a proposal to place Rivenhall parish within a new Braintree constituency and Witham within a new Witham and Maldon constituency. If the proposals mentioned above are not adopted, it would not be understood why some people and their neighbours would be in different constituencies, some needing to make their way to Rivenhall village centre to vote. The thick black line on the map below shows where the Witham-Rivenhall boundary should ideally run, with the adjustment discussed above at the Coleman's Bridge.

### Simon Brice Colemans Farm Little Braxted Lane Rivenhall

I am emailing in support for the boundary of Witham to be extended to cover the Forest Road site and also the Eastways Industrial site, Witham was extended into Rivenhall in the past when the Forest Road development was built in the early 70's.

# Clerk -Council.

With regard to the above, and in reply to your previously received but Rivenhall Parish undated letter, and following from a locally convened 'Open Forum' so that local residents could have an input, Rivenhall Parish Council respond as follows:

> 1. The Parish Council agree with the BDC decision regarding the established and proposed extension of Eastways Industrial Estate to

be merged and included within the Witham Parish boundary.

- 2. Although it is recognised that the new residents of the development north of Forest Road are more likely to look to Witham for goods and services, this is not in itself a sufficient reason why the Witham Parish boundary should be extended to include this development, therefore, the Parish Council recommend that this proposal should be withdrawn.
- 3. That BDC restrict any future discussion to the two sites contained in the consultation document.

### Jack Prime 475 Rickstones rd, Rivenhall, Witham Essex CM8 3HH

I wish to ask that BDC restrict any boundary changes between Rivenhall and Witham to the two areas specifically referred to in the council's proposed areas for decision – i.e. the development off Forest Road and Eastways Industrial site. The decisions on these two sites, whatever way it is decided will be made by BDC after the current public involvement.

I do not believe any other sites within Rivenhall parish should be included in the boundary changes decided following this review. In the previous round of public involvement, Witham Town Council put forward proposals for several other sites to be transferred to Witham and I object to their proposals.

Their seeking to take part of the area of land known as the 'Rectory Triangle', the part with a current planning application, is not acceptable or justified. The argument that residents of this site, (if development approved) will look to Witham for services, employment and social activities is specious because this applies to all Rivenhall, especially the hamlet of Rickstones End, stretching from Stoverns Hall farm to the houses just before the Rickstones School buildings and including the properties in the 'Rectory Triangle'. Rivenhall main village only has one shop and Rivenhall End, a petrol station, so obviously Rivenhall residents look to Witham for services/employment. As regards social activities, Rivenhall does have two village halls and it is quite probable that any residents in the Rectory triangle will look to these for some social activities as well as those in Witham as well as a probability of some attending Rivenhall Church. The Rectory Triangle contains several properties including the 'Old Rectory' and a business EH Smith & Sons (Builders Merchants) so this area is not undeveloped. If the development is approved it will form an additional development within the 'Triangle' and will neighbour existing properties on the area, rather than be a distinctly separate and remote development. The 'Rectory Triangle' needs to have its integrity as one fairly small area of land in one parish maintained. In the Village Design Statement (approved as material planning consideration by BDC in 2005) it was identified that Rivenhall could do with more two/three bedroomed homes and bungalows, so if this site is approved for developments then it would be in line with parish housing needs and

not be a development liable to 'swamp' the parish!. The parish envelopes are very restrictive and do not allow for any sizeable developments. The site would be adjacent to and continuous with existing housing along Rickstones Road in Rivenhall parish so would not be remote from existing housing in the parish which was an argument put forward for the transfer of the Forest Road development.

As regards the school site, this may be divided into two parts, the area with the school buildings and the playing field with the three properties between the field and the area with the school buildings. Obviously the three properties are long established as being in Rivenhall parish, the local name for the area is historically 'Rivenhall Fields'. These properties along with the playing field should remain in the parish, the field aligns with the rectory triangle and forms a green boundary being a clear ground feature separate from the school buildings, any future planning proposals affecting this field would impact more on Rivenhall parish than Witham and this reinforces the need to keep this field in Rivenhall parish. The school buildings are recent but replaced original school buildings which have happily existed in RIvenhall parish since the school was built in the 1970's. There is no need to move it into Witham parish as it has been contributing to both Witham and Rivenhall educational, cultural and sporting life successfully for years and this can continue with it being located in Rivenhall parish with no detriment to either parish.

The argument re voting that any residents of new developments in the Rectory Triangle would expect to vote in Witham rather than Rivenhall has no substance as the existing residents in the triangle area have long voted in Rivenhall centre not Witham and as part of Rivenhall parish any new residents in the triangle would expect to do the same. They would be expecting to have an influence on their parish council (Rivenhall) rather than Witham Town Council the neighbouring parish.

Forest Road forms the natural boundary between the two parishes and should continue to do so.

### Mark Squire Town Clerk

Following your recent letter regarding the Community Governance Review, the Town Council has again discussed representations.

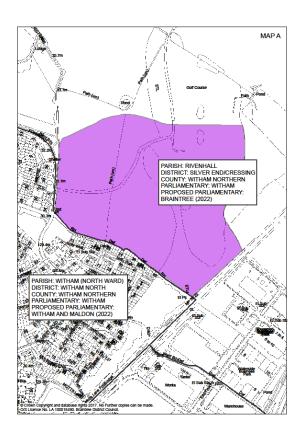
Members asked that the importance of extending the parish boundary into Rivenhall, particularly in view of the proposed Parliamentary boundaries be stressed. The residents of these new homes would look to enjoy Witham's facilities but not be included in the Town Council's tax base.

Wood End Farm development site should be included within the Witham boundary.

Members also considered that support should be given for the creation of a Braintree Town/Parish Council.

# 7.6 Appendix Maps

### 7.6.1



# 8.0 Rivenhall

Reference	Proposal (Initial	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
No	consultation)		
8.0.1	Extend the Witham	Extend the Witham	
	Parish boundary to	Parish boundary to	
	include the Eastway	include the	
	Industrial Estate	Eastway Industrial	
		Estate	

### 8.1 Consultees

- a) Rivenhall Parish Council
- b) Individual contact letters to Rivenhall households

### 8.2 Electorate statistics

	Households	Electors
Rivenhall	306	605
Eastwavs	Industrial Park	None

### 8.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

8.3.1 No further comments

### **8.4 Returning Officer comments**

8.4.1 The Returning Officer supports proposals for consequential reviews of Principal and Town/Parish boundaries.

### 8.5 Representations

8.5.1 A number of representations related to multiple proposals, the elements which are considered linked to this proposal have been highlighted as bold text where there is a mixed response.

Jackie Allan 5 Foxmead Rivenhall End Witham Essex CM8 3HD	1. The proposal to extend the Witham Central ward use the A12 towards Rivenhall End  I agree with including the Eastways industrial estate is de facto part of the Witham industrial area. I do nagree with including the next field up to and includin Burghey Brook. This will simply infill and the small green area between Rivenhall End and Witham will be further eroded. Rivenhall and Rivenhall End are very different in character to Witham, and proud of their own identity; it is important to preserve this.		
	2. The proposal to extend the Witham Central ward north of the railway line to incorporate the new housing development and part of the golf course. I object to the extension of the Witham boundary - this opens the way for further building to erode the green belt between Witham and Rivenhall, and threatens to destroy the character of Rivenhall village by turning it into a suburb of Witham.		
John Macrae Whitelands London Road Rivenhall End Essex CM8 3HA	<ol> <li>Extend the Witham Parish Boundary to include the new development site at Forest Road, Witham</li> <li>I strongly object to this proposal because:-</li> <li>Incorrect title: it should read " off Forest Road in Rivenhall". The official title is misleading and suggests that Rivenhall is already a part of Witham.</li> <li>Braintree District Council has set such tight village envelopes for Rivenhall End and Rivenhall, that Rivenhall's community cannot expand sustainably: our children are forced to live outside the village due</li> </ol>		

- to no new homes being permitted within. The "Rivenhall Park" development should remain within the parish of Rivenhall so that residents can truly consider themselves part of our thriving, lively village community, not part of an increasingly sprawling urban conglomeration. This would give Rivenhall three village centres namely Rivenhall, Rivenhall Park and Rivenhall End.
- If BDC is mindful to increase the Witham boundary at this site, it should only be expanded to enclose the Rivenhall Park development that has current planning permission. All land outside that with current planning permission must be retained as a green buffer between Rivenhall and Witham to safeguard the dramatically different characters of those two settlements.
- 2. Extend the Witham Parish Boundary to include the Eastways Industrial Estate.

I strongly object to this proposal because:-

- Incorrect title: it should read ".... Waterside Business Park". It is only Waterside Business Park that currently (happily) lies within Rivenhall Parish. The published title is grossly misleading.
- I am aware that BDC intends to extend the Waterside Business Park one field width northwards towards Rivenhall End. There is absolutely no need for any boundary extension to include Burghey Brook Farm itself. This is a further example of Witham Town Council seeking an unnecessary land-grab.
- There is no tangible benefit in changing the parish within which an industrial area lies. If Waterside Business Park, Rivenhall must be extended then it should be permitted to expand within Rivenhall.
- Following the Essex County Structure Planning Enquiry some year back in which a local landowner (still the local landowner) sought to develop the area between Witham and Rivenhall End, the Inspector threw out the proposed land-use change on a planning precedent - the clear wishes of the two communities involved (Witham and Rivenhall) demonstrated that both wished to remain independent and not be coalesced.

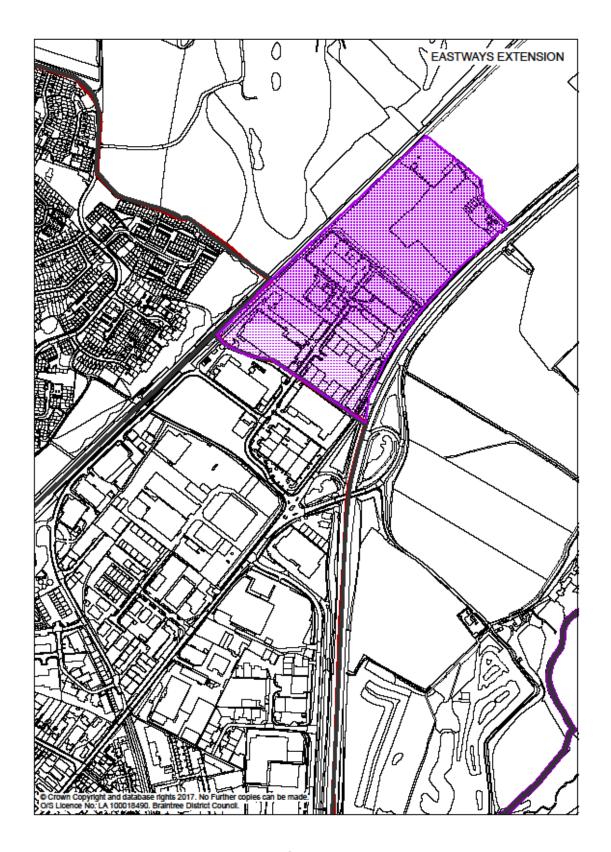
Clerk – Rivenhall Parish Council. With regard to the above, and in reply to your previously received but undated letter, and following from a locally

convened 'Open Forum' so that local residents could have an input, Rivenhall Parish Council respond as follows:

- 1.The Parish Council agree with the BDC decision regarding the established and proposed extension of Eastways Industrial Estate to be merged and included within the Witham Parish boundary.
- 2. Although it is recognised that the new residents of the development north of Forest Road are more likely to look to Witham for goods and services, this is not in itself a sufficient reason why the Witham Parish boundary should be extended to include this development, therefore, the Parish Council recommend that this proposal should be withdrawn.
- 3. That BDC restrict any future discussion to the two sites contained in the consultation document.

### 8.6 Appendix Map

### 8.6.1



# 9.0 Oak Road Halstead development site

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
9.0.1	That the Halstead	That the Halstead	

Parish boundary be	Parish boundary be	
extended to include	extended to include	
the development site	the development	
south of Oak Road,	site south of Oak	
Halstead	Road, Halstead	

### 9.1Consultees

- a) Greenstead Green Parish Council
- b) Halstead Town Council
- c) Individual contact letters to all households within Greenstead Green

### 9.2 Electorate statistics

	Households	Electors	
Greenstead Green	270	545	

### 9.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

- 9.3.1 Members are advised that any changes to the Parish boundaries will require the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to grant consent to proposals as these directly impact on previous recommendations following their Principal Area review in July 2014. The 2014 recommendations are protected for a period of 5 years and can therefore only be amended following a further "consequential review" by them.
- 9.3.2 It is suggested that, for clarity, further representation be made to the LGBCE for a consequential review of the Principal area boundary so as to maintain boundaries which are coterminous.

### 9.4 Returning Officer comments

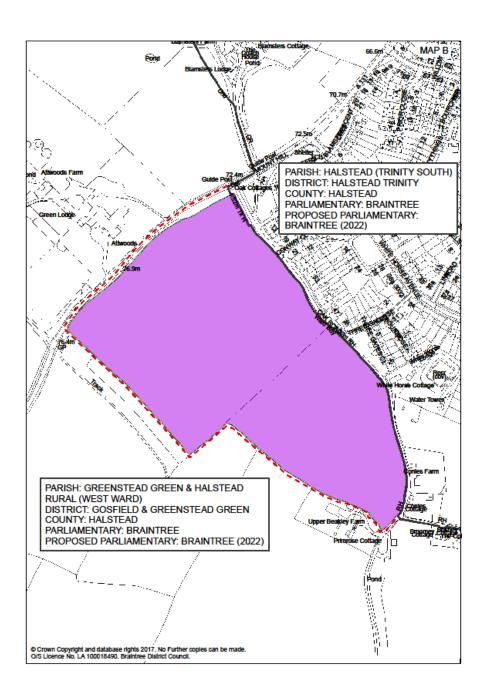
9.4.2 The Returning Officer supports proposals for consequential review of the Principal Town/Parish boundaries.

### 9.5 Representations

9.5.1 No further representations

### 9.6 Appendix Maps

9.6.1



# 10 Land East of Sudbury Road Halstead

Reference	Proposal (Initial	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
No	consultation)		
10.0.1	That the development	That the	
	land East of Sudbury	development land	
	Road Halstead be	East of Sudbury	
	included within an	Road Halstead be	
	extended Halstead	included within an	
	Parish boundary.	extended Halstead	
		Parish boundary	
		The boundary of	

this to be Sudbury	
Road to the East,	
Star Stile to the	
North and the track	
to the East.	

### 10.1 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

10.1.1 Members are advised that any changes to the Parish boundaries will require the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to grant consent to proposals as these directly impact on previous recommendations—following their Principal Area review in July 2014. The 2014 recommendations are protected for a period of 5 years and can therefore only be amended following a further "consequential review" by them.

### **10.2 Returning Officer comments**

10.2.1 The Returning Officer supports proposals for consequential review of the Principal and Town/Parish boundaries.

### 10.3 Representations

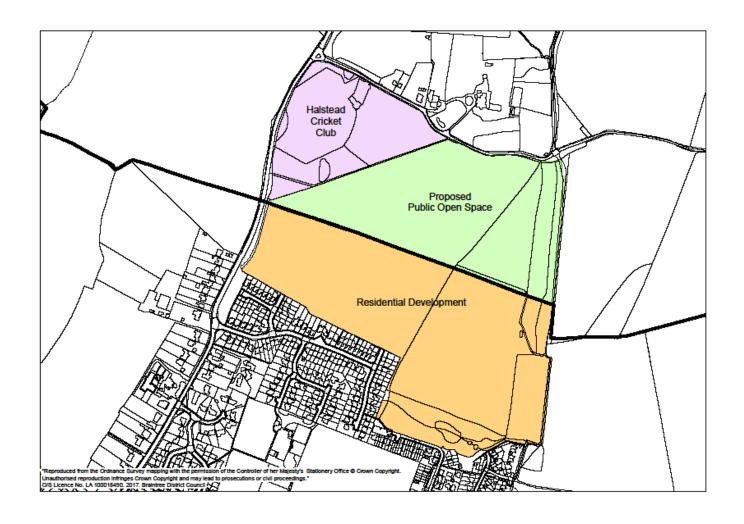
Amanda Degnan
Parish Clerk.
Greenstead Green
and Halstead Rural
Parish Council.

The Parish Council at their meeting, on Wednesday 17th January 2018, looked at Braintree District Council's proposed boundary move. Land East of Sudbury Road – That the Halstead Parish boundary be extended to include the proposed Public Open space to the North of the Residential Development site and Halstead Cricket Club. The boundary to be defined by the centre of Sudbury Road to the East, the centre of Star Stile to the North and the track to the East, which was discussed at your Committee meeting on the 29th November 2017 and by Braintree District Council at their meeting on 11th December 2017.

After much discussion Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council unanimously agreed to accept the proposed boundary change.

### 10.4 Appendix Map

10.4.1



# 11.0 Kelvedon

Reference	Proposal (Initial	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
No	consultation)		
11.0.1	That due to the	That due to the	
	impending development	impending	
	an increase in	development an	
	representation by 1	increase in	
	Councillor be supported	representation by 1	
		Councillor be	
		supported	

### 11.1 Consultees

# a) Kelvedon Parish Council

### 11.2 Electorate statistics

Households	Electors
1518	2710

### 11.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

11.3.1The request has been by the Kelvedon Parish Council. There are no legislative constraints which would preclude the increase in Kelvedon Councillor numbers.

### 11.4 Returning Officer comments

11.4.1The Returning Officer is content with proposals.

### 11.5 Representations

11.5.1 No responses received during the Consultation period.

### 12 Feering

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
12.0.1	That warding	That warding	
	arrangements be	arrangements be	
	removed from Feering	removed from Feering	
	Parish Council	Parish Council	

### 12.1 Proposed Consultees

a) Feering Parish Council

### 12.2 Electorate statistics

	Households	Electors
Feering (North)	191	372
Feering (South)	634	1267

### 12.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

12.3.1 No further comments

### 12.4 Returning Officer comments

12.4.1The Returning Officer has no comments

### 12.5 Representations

12.5.1 No further representations have been received

# 13.0 - Coggeshall

Reference No	Initial consultation CGR July 2017	Draft Proposal for Consultation. January 2018	Final Proposal
13.0.1	To merge existing North and East wards and rename (7 Councillors)	To merge existing North and East wards and rename North ward (7 Councillors)	
13.0.2	To merge South and West Wards and rename (6 Councillors)	To merge South and West Wards and rename South ward (6 Councillors)	
13.0.3	To increase representation to the new South/West ward by 1 additional Councillor	To increase representation to the new South ward by 1 additional Councillor	
13.0.4	New Issue	To redefine the new North ward boundary to include all residential properties in Tilkey Road.	

#### 13.1Consultees

a) Coggeshall Parish Council

#### 13.2 Electorate statistics

	Households	<b>Electors</b>
North ward	557	1070
East ward	450	843
South ward	349	616
West ward	766	1155

# **13.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal**

13.3.1 No further comments

# 13.4 Returning Officer comments

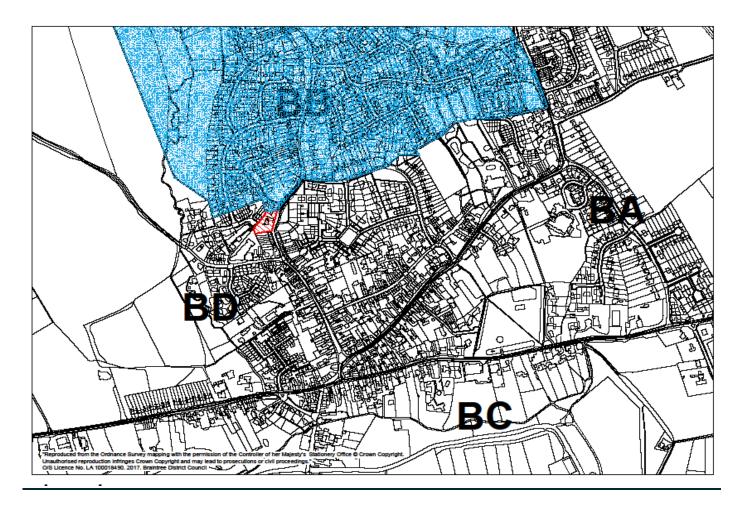
13.4.1 No further comments

## 13.5 Representations

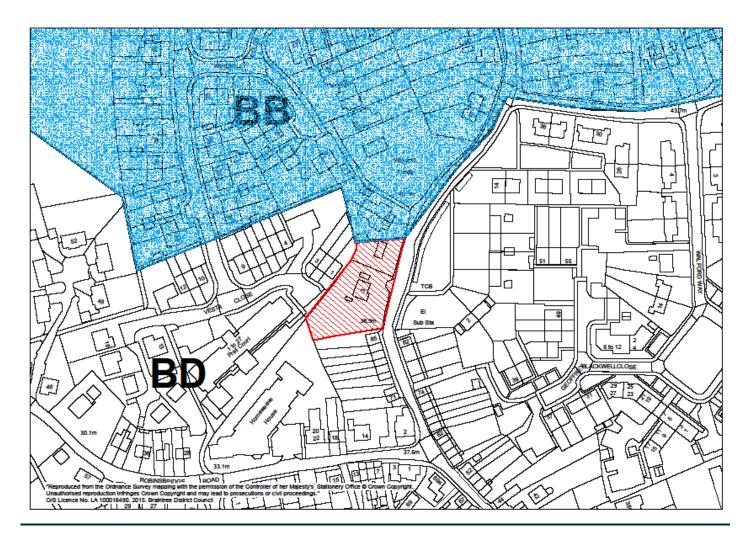
13.5.1 No further representations have been received

# 13.6 Appendix Maps

# 13.6.1



## 13.6.2



# 14.0 Panfield

Reference	Proposal (Initial	Draft Proposal	Final
No	consultation)		Proposal
14.0.1	That the Panfield Parish Boundary be extended to include an undeveloped rural area known as Panfield Wood	That Panfield Wood remains within the parish of Rayne.	

## 14.1 Consultees

- a) Panfield Parish Council
- b) Rayne Parish Council

#### **14.2 Electorate statistics**

Households	Electors
374	717
Protected Woodland	None
944	1847
	374 Protected Woodland

# 14.3 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

14.3.1 No further comments

## 14.4 Returning Officer comments

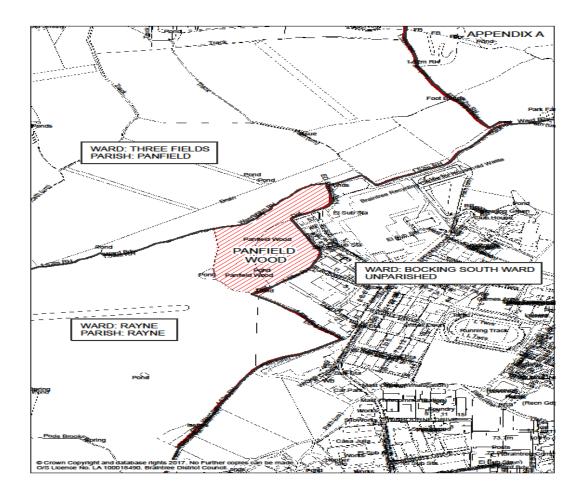
14.4.1 No further comments

# 14.5 Representations

14.5.1 No further representations have been received.

## 14.6 Appendix Maps

14.6.1



# 15.0 East of London Road Braintree

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
15.0.1	That any decision with regard to Parish Governance be deferred until the new development is established.	That any decision with regard to Parish Governance be deferred until the new development is established	

#### 15.1Consultees

- Great Notley Parish Council Black Notley Parish Council a)
- b)

## 15.2 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

15.2.1 No further comments

# 15.3 Returning Officer comments

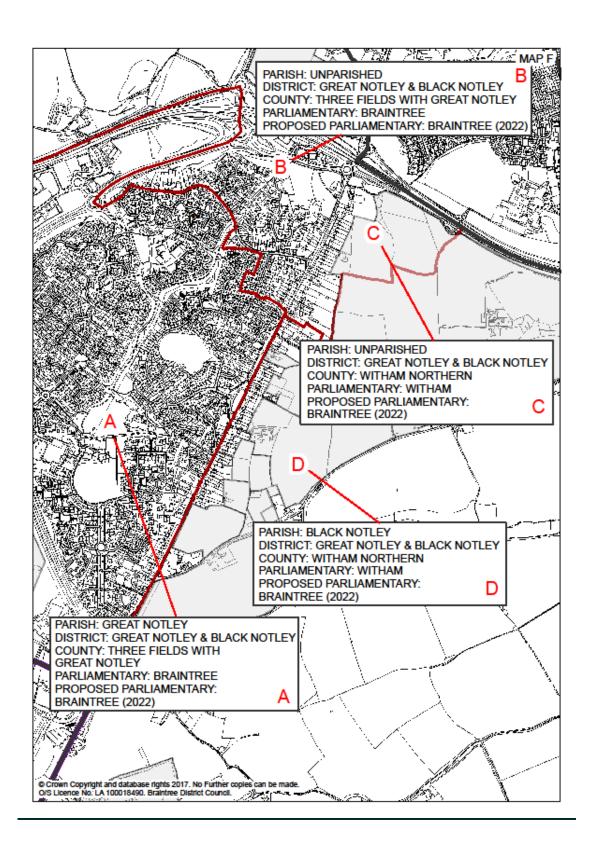
15.3.1 No comment at this stage

# 15.4 Representations

Helen Waterfield	Further to the Community Governance review consultation
Clerk to Black Notley	regarding the proposed development East of London Road,
Parish Council	Braintree. Black Notley Parish Council have asked that I
	respond and say that they would like to see this location remain
	in our parish in the meantime.

# 15.5 Appendix maps

15.5.1



# 16.0 Braintree (unparished)

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
16.0.1	That a Braintree Town	That the establishment	
	Council be established	of a Braintree Town	
		Council is not	
		supported	

# **16.1 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal**

16.1.1 No further comments

# **16.2 Returning Officer comments**

16.2.1 No further comments

## 16.3 Representations

Michael Lager 45 Chipping Hill Witham CM9 2JT	Braintree parish council – I support the formation of a parish council (or councils) in Braintree town, because residents are losing out on the chance to run the business of the town themselves, having to rely on their district councillors (whose prime responsibility is the governance of the District as a whole), and going without the added value that a parish council brings.
Mark Squire Town Clerk	Following your recent letter regarding the Community Governance Review, the Town Council has again discussed representations.  Members asked that the importance of extending the parish boundary into Rivenhall, particularly in view of the proposed Parliamentary boundaries be stressed. The residents of these new homes would look to enjoy Witham's facilities but not be included in the Town Council's tax base.  Wood End Farm development site should be included within the Witham boundary.  Members also considered that support should be given for the
	creation of a Braintree Town/Parish Council.

#### 17.0 Additional minor amendments

Reference No	Proposal (Initial consultation)	Draft Proposal	Final Proposal
17.0.1		New Issue	That the property known as Stones Farm, Tidings Hill be included in a revised Halstead Parish boundary

#### 17.1 Commentary and Legislative Appraisal

- 17.1.1Members are advised that any changes to the Parish boundaries will require the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) to grant consent to proposals as these directly impact on previous recommendations following their Principal Area review in July 2014. The 2014 recommendations are protected for a period of 5 years and can therefore only be amended following a further "consequential review" by them.
- 17.1.2 Whilst it would be unusual to include a new proposal at this stage, it should be noted that this is a single dwelling which has self-selected to propose change. There has however been no opportunity for Parish and Town Councils to input into this proposal or other parties to comment and this should be taken into account when considering the proposal.

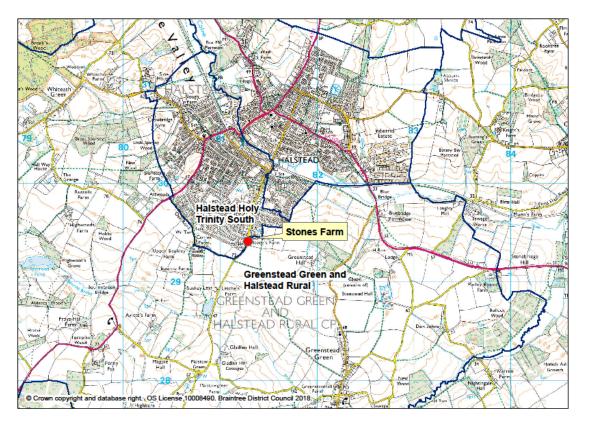
#### 17.2 Returning Officer comments

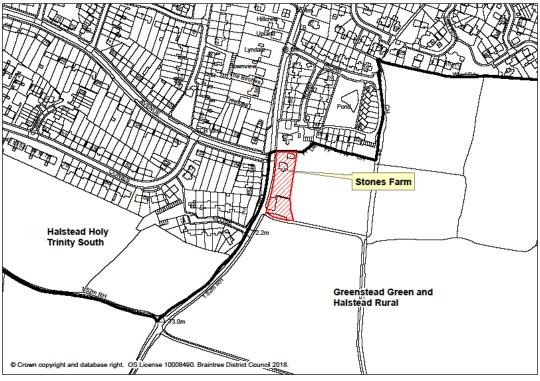
17.2.1 The Returning Officer supports proposals for consequential review of the Principal and Town/Parish boundaries.

#### 17.3 Representations

John Davis	I understand that the Parish Boundaries are being discussed at
Stones Farm,	the moment. We live in Tidings Hill and at the moment the
Tidings Hill,	boundary comes down our drive putting us in Greenstead Green.
Halstead,	To all intents and purposes we feel we are in Halstead and are
Essex	the only property in the area not included within the Halstead
CO9 1ND	boundary. I would point out that we are not a working farm, but a private dwelling. We would be very pleased if you would put our
	case forward at the Boundary discussion meetings.

#### 17.4 Appendix Maps





#### **Proposed Draft Letter to LGBCE**

**Dear Boundary Commission** 

Braintree District Council formally launched its whole District Community Governance Review on 1 August 2017.

The review used, as its starting point, the results of a pre review Parish Council survey which invited all Parishes to highlight matters which would inform the initial base public consultation. This phase of consultation ran for 3 months concluding on 31 October 2017. Following Council consideration the Council published Draft proposals for further consultation on 1 January 2018. This phase concluded on 28 February 2018.

The Council's consultation strategy consisted of the following:

- Contact with Parish Council where change was proposed
- Household letters to all affected households
- Contact with:
  - Members of Parliament
  - County and District Council Councillors
  - o Political Parties
  - Access groups
  - Braintree District Peoples Panel
- Local media advertising and Press releases

At each stage all responses were published on the Council website and all can be viewed at <a href="https://www.braintree.gov.uk/cgr">www.braintree.gov.uk/cgr</a>

The Commission will be aware that a full Electoral Review was commissioned and commenced in March 2013 with the Final report being published in July 2014. Electoral arrangements were amended and applied for the first time to the full District and Parish elections in May 2015.

The next District and Parish elections are scheduled for May 2019. In all cases these are all out elections and will be contested on a 4 yearly cycle

The Council are aware of the 5 year protection afforded to PER recommendations and would seek the Commissions support to the following:

- 1. Consent to review the Parish boundaries of:
  - a. Holy Trinity (South)
  - b. St Andrews (North)
  - c. Witham (North Ward)
  - d. Witham (Hatfield)
- 2. Consequential recommendations for:
  - a. Holy Trinity (South)
  - b. St Andrews (North)

- c. Witham (North Ward)
- d. Witham (Central Ward)
- e. Witham (Hatfield)
- 3. Related alterations so as to maintain Principal area and Parish ward boundaries which are coterminous:
  - a. Halstead Trinity
  - b. Halstead St Andrews
  - c. Witham Central
  - d. Witham North

#### **Halstead Trinity**

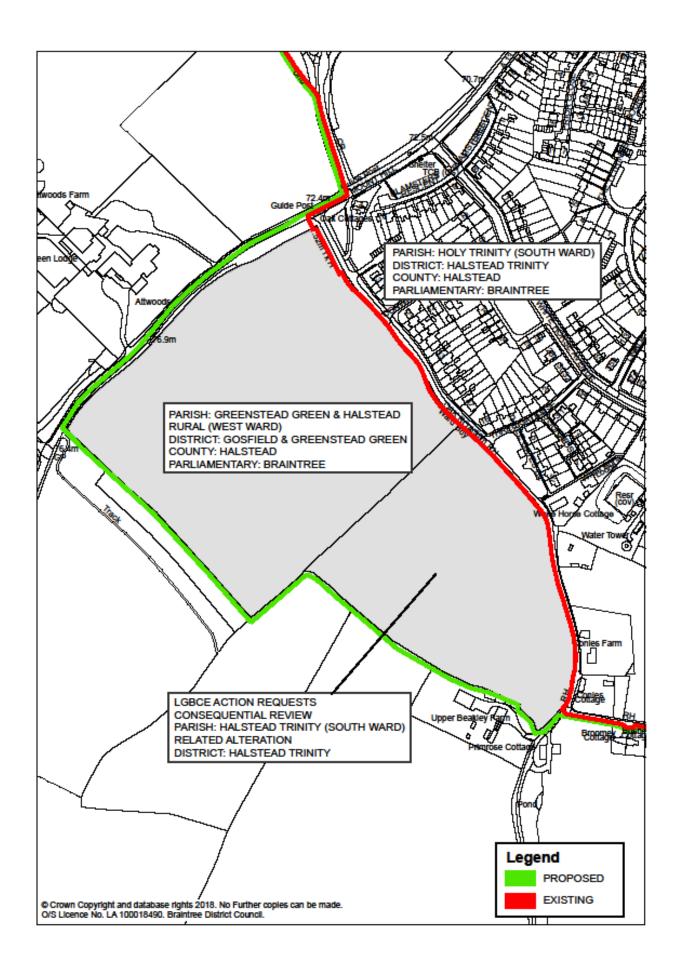
#### Oak Road

This development was NOT included within the 2014 Principal Area Review.

The development is entirely within the West Ward of Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish. The Parish is contained within the Principal Area ward boundary of Gosfield and Greenstead Green.

The overall governance of the development was highlighted by Halstead Town Council as part of the District Community Governance Review. Following a full public consultation which included Town and Parish Councils and household communication to all addresses within Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish there was an overwhelming acceptance that the functional relationship with Halstead was greater than that with Greenstead Green.

The District Council supports this view and would seek the Commissions support for the consequential review of the Holy Trinity (South) Parish boundary to include the "Oak Road" development site.

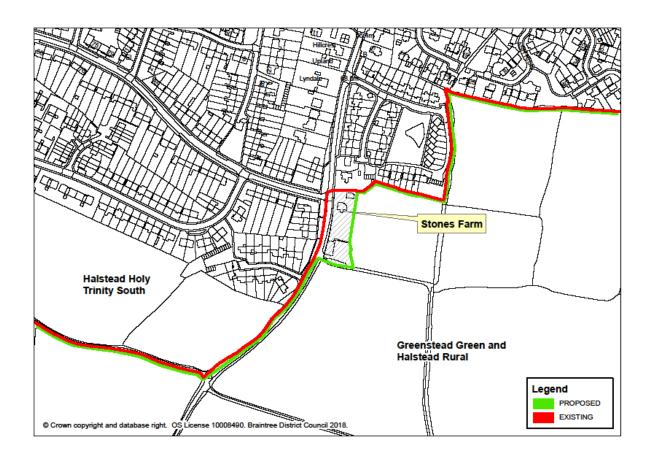


#### Stones Farm – Tidings Hill

This is an isolated request from the residents of this property who are seeking the extension of the Halstead Boundary to include their property.

The property is on the extreme margin of the Parish of Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural and whilst their physical proximity to the nearest Halstead property is a matter of 10 metres they are in excess of 1.5 km from the village of Greenstead Green.

Whilst the District Council supports this request to include Stones Farm within the Halstead boundary they would request that the Principal area boundary be similarly amended so as to avoid the need for the electors to attend 1 polling station for District elections and a different polling station for Parish elections.



Actions: Request LGBCE review extend the Protected area

**Consequential review** of Parish Boundary to include Oak Road development within Holy Trinity (South) and Stones Farm.

Request **Related Alteration** of District Ward to include Oak Road development and Stones Farm within Halstead Trinity.

At the time the electoral forecasts for the development were

D	istric	t Ward			Parish Ward				
From		Gosfi	eld and		From Greens		enstead		
	Gree		nstead				Green and		
		Gr	reen				Hal	stead	
							R	Rural	
То	•	Hals	stead		То	То		Holy Trinity	
		Tri	inity		(South)		outh)		
Current	5 Ye	Road ear ection	Stones Farm		Current	Oak Road 5 year projection		Stones Farm	
2852	2	283	1	Properties	1202	2	283	1	
4750	4	186	2	Electors	2126		186	2	
41		4	-	Attainers	17	4		-	
				(Under 18)					

#### Halstead St Andrews

#### Land East of Sudbury Road, Halstead

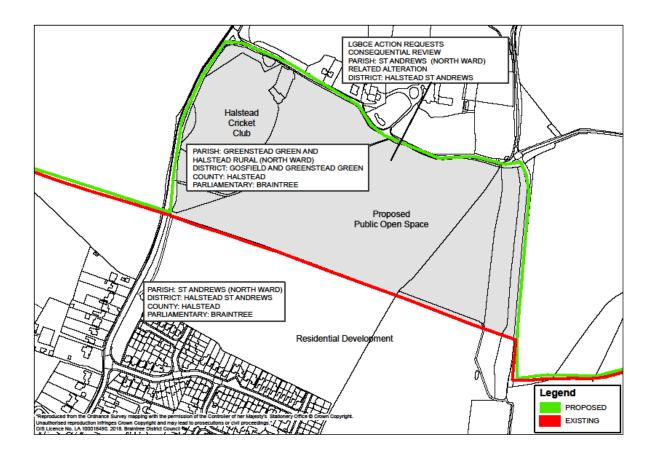
This development was NOT included within the 2014 Principal Area Review.

The development is contained within the established Halstead St Andrews (North) parish ward however the public open space to the North of the residential development which is being provided by the developer is located within the West Ward of Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish.

Whilst the area allocated for residential development lies within the existing Halstead Parish boundary the overall governance of the newly created open space was highlighted by Halstead Town Council as part of the District Community Governance Review. Following a full public consultation which included Town and Parish Councils and household communication to all addresses within Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish there was an overwhelming acceptance that this open space be maintained by Halstead.

The District Council supports this view and would seek the Commissions support for the consequential review of the St Andrews (North) Parish with the extension of the Parish boundary to be bounded by Star Stile to the North and Sudbury Road to the West.

There are no existing or proposed residential properties within the proposed extension area.



#### Witham North

#### **Forest Road**

This development was NOT included within the 2014 Principal Area Review however development has now been accelerated.

The development is within the Parish of Rivenhall and is included in the Principal Area ward of Silver End and Cressing.

The overall governance of the development was highlighted by Witham Town Council as part of the District Community Governance Review. Following a full public consultation which included Town and Parish Councils and household communication to all addresses within Rivenhall Parish there was an acceptance that the functional relationship with Witham was greater than that with Rivenhall.

The District Council supports this view and would seek the Commissions support for the consequential review of the Witham (North Ward) Parish boundary to include the "Forest Road" development site.

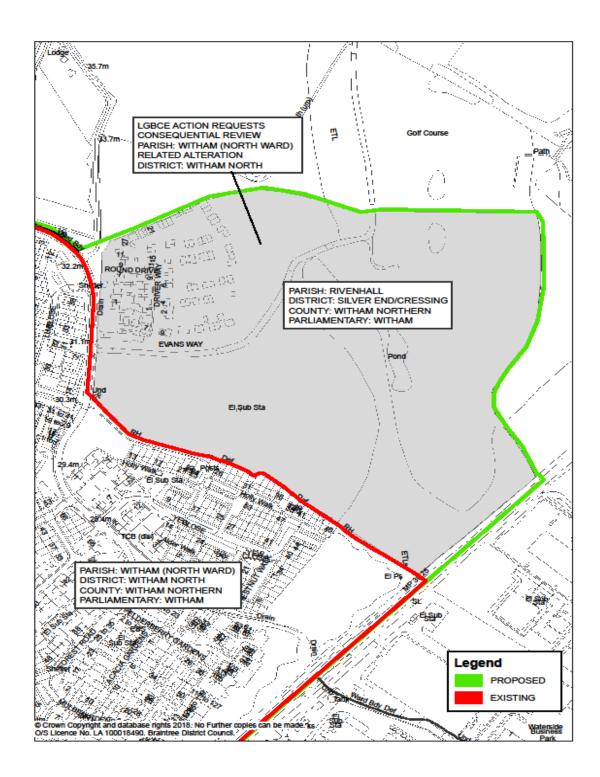
Actions: Request LGBCE review extend the Protected area

**Consequential review** of Parish Boundary to include Forest Road development within Witham (North Ward)

# Request **Related Alteration** of District Ward to include Forest Road development within Witham North

At the time the electoral forecasts for the development were:

District	District Ward		Parish	ward
From	Cressing and Silver End		From Rivenha	
То	Witham North		То	Witham (North ward)
Current	Forest Road 5 year projection		Current	Forest Road 5 year projection
2935	385	Properties	2935	385
5050	662	Electors	5050	662
39	5	Attainers (Under 18)	39	5

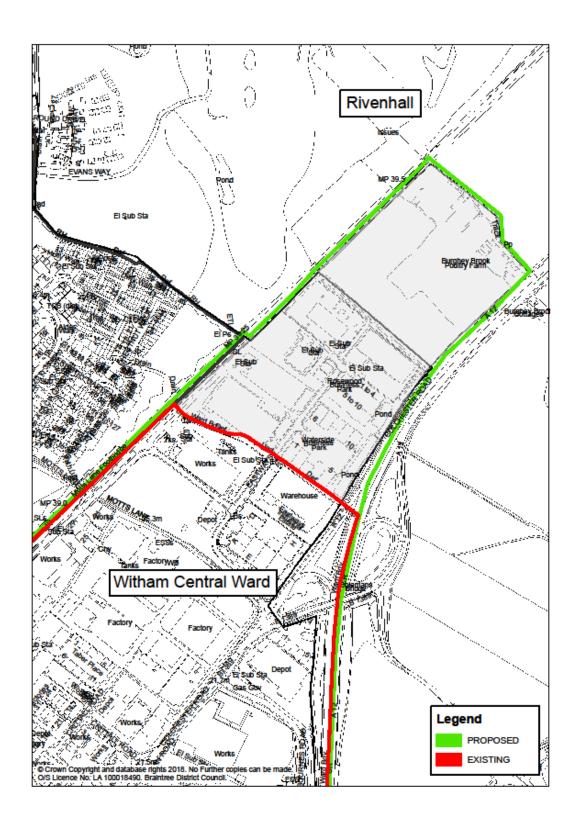


#### Witham Central

#### **Eastways Industrial Estate**

Representation was made from Witham Town Council for the parish boundary to be extended to include the extension of this industrial estate.

Given that this is totally an industrial allocation and no electoral arrangements are compromised the Council are content with this proposal and would seek LGBCE consideration.



#### Lodge Farm/Wood End Farm

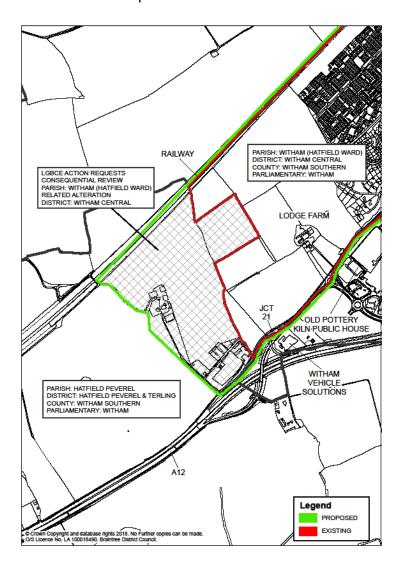
This development spans both District and Parish ward boundaries between Witham and Hatfield Peverel.

The Lodge Farm development is contained within the existing Witham boundaries together with the exception of one "field" which is situated within Hatfield Peverel.

The overall governance of the development was highlighted by Witham Town Council as part of the District Community Governance Review. Following a full public consultation which included Town and Parish Councils and household communication to all addresses within the Hatfield Peverel Parish. The District Council considered representation from a number of Hatfield Peverel residents who objected to boundary changes on both loss of potential precept revenue and erosion of green space and other related planning issues.

Given that the CGR is focussed on the governance of the development there was an acceptance that the functional relationship with Witham was greater than that with Hatfield Peverel and in the circumstances they support the proposed boundary changes.

The District Council therefore seeks the Commissions support for the consequential review of the Witham (Hatfield) Parish boundary to include the "Lodge Farm/Wood End Farm" development site.



Actions: Request LGBCE review to extend the Protected area

**Consequential review** of Parish Boundary to include Wood End Farm development within Witham (Hatfield)

# Request **Related Alteration** of District Ward to include the Lodge Farm/Wood End Farm development within Witham Central

# At the time the electoral forecasts for the development were

District			Parish	
From	Hatfield Peverel and Terling		From	Hatfield Peverel
То	Witham Central		То	Witham (Hatfield)
Current	Lodge Farm/Wood End Farm 5 Year projection		Current	Lodge Farm/Wood End Farm 5 Year projection
2856	300	Properties	1284	300
4356	498	Electorate	2133	498
17	5	Attainers (Under 18's)	8	5