

Agenda



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A meeting of the **Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee**

will be held on Tuesday 22 October 2019 at 6.30 pm
135 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, Milton, Abingdon, OX14 4SB

Members of the Committee:

Councillors
Ron Batstone (Chair)
Paul Barrow
Alison Jenner
Sarah Medley (Vice-Chair)

Mike Pighills
Janet Shelley

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M Reed'.

Margaret Reed
Head of Legal and Democratic

Agenda

Open to the public including the press

1. Apologies for absence

To record apologies for absence and the attendance of substitute members.

2. Minutes

(Pages 4 - 6)

To adopt and sign as a correct record the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2018 - **attached**.

3. Declarations of interest

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

4. Urgent business and chair's announcements

To receive notification of any matters which the chair determines should be considered as urgent business and the special circumstances which have made the matters urgent, and to receive any announcements from the chairman.

5. Public participation

To receive any questions or statements from members of the public that have registered to speak.

6. Report of the Returning Officer on the delivery of the May 2019 district and parish elections

To consider the report of the returning officer – **to follow**.

7. Polling district and polling places review

(Pages 7 - 19)

To consider the report of the head of legal and democratic on proposals for polling districts and polling places following a periodic review required by the Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013 - **attached**.

8. District wide community governance review

Vale of White Horse District Council undertook a district wide review of parish arrangements in 2013/14 with Council agreeing changes at its meeting in July 2014. This committee undertook a number of further reviews, some deferred from the 2013/14 district wide review and others in response to further requests from parish councils, with any agreed changes implemented prior to the 2019 elections.

A community governance review (CGR) is a review carried out by a principal council of the whole or part of its area. The aim is to look at one or more of:

- the creation, merging or abolition of parishes

Vale of White Horse District Councils

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- the naming of parishes
- the style of parishes (for example town, village, community)
- the electoral arrangements for parishes (for example size of parish councils, number of councillors, warding arrangements)

District council wards and county council divisions cannot be altered in a community governance order. However, a request may be made to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to carry out a review for changes to district or county boundaries as a result of a local CGR.

At its meeting on 23 October 2017 this committee agreed “that the council undertakes a community governance review every four years with changes agreed for implementation at the next scheduled parish elections”. In line with this resolution committee is invited to agree that a district wide community governance review is commenced in 2020.

RECOMMENDATION:

That officers submit a timetable for a community governance review to this committee for a review to commence in Spring 2020.