

CGR C (24)

Parishes Affected

Wantage and Grove

Matter to be considered

Amending the boundary of Wantage parish to include all the land at Stockham Farm, currently in Grove parish.

Proposal agreed by the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee on 14 August 2017 for consultation

To consult on a draft proposal to amend the boundary of Wantage parish to include all the land at Stockham Farm currently in Grove parish.

Summary of parish council responses

Wantage Town Council supports the committee's proposal – see attached letter.

Grove Parish Council disagrees with the committee's proposal – see attached letter.

Summary of other responses

A summary of the responses received to the earlier consultation were submitted to the committee at its meeting in August and showed of the 61 respondents 59% agreed with the proposed change.

The council consulted the current residents of Stockham Farm on the committee's draft proposal. 26 properties responded to the consultation. Of those 24 supported the committee's proposal. Two asked questions relating to school catchment areas which are not impacted by parish boundaries but did not comment directly on the proposed boundary change.

Recommendation

To amend the boundary of Wantage parish to include all the land at Stockham Farm currently in Grove parish.

To include this area in the current Segsbury ward of Wantage Town Council.

Justification

The land at Stockham Farm currently sits wholly in Grove parish. The identities and interests of the new residents is best served by moving this land into Wantage parish.

Grove Parish Council makes reference to a possible change to the line of the canal. However, there is currently no formal plan for this.

Grove Parish Council has also referenced the loss of council tax receipts. This loss of income will not impact on the viability of Grove Parish Council and is therefore not considered a relevant factor for consideration.