



# GROVE PARISH COUNCIL

Old Mill Hall  
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Grove, Wantage  
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Tel: 01235 766599

Clerk/Treasurer: Mr G M Mundy

FC/GMM/17/01

Steven Corrigan – via Email  
to: Steven.corrigan@southandvale.gov.uk

2 October 2017

Dear Mr Corrigan

I am writing on behalf of Grove Parish Council in response to the Community Governance Reviews currently being undertaken. Grove Parish Council's responses are set out below for each review:

## **CGR D(24) – Wantage, Grove and Lockinge**

Grove Parish Council agree with the recommendation to extend the boundary of Wantage parish at Crab Hill (to include land currently in both Grove and Lockinge).

However, because one member of Grove Parish Council is currently warded to Crab Hill, this Council requests that notification in writing is made to Grove Parish Council that the current member is re-allocated to either Grove North Ward or Wantage and Grove Brook Ward, therefore retaining the position on Grove Parish Council and Council membership remains at 16 members.

## **CGR A(13) – Grove Technology Park**

Grove Parish Council disagrees with the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee not to include land at Grove Technology Park within the boundary of Grove Parish for the following reasons:

- The only vehicular entrance to Grove Technology Park is Downsview Road, through the Parish of Grove.
- Businesses located within Grove Technology Park clearly identify themselves as being in Grove, this is reflected in their postal addresses, none of them refer to East Challow. Many of the employees at Grove Technology Park live in Grove and many use the facilities the parish has to offer during their lunch breaks etc.
- Of historical note, the new Grove Technology Park once housed the control tower and other buildings associated with the World War II Grove Airfield and more recently Grove Laboratories, it is now home to the re-named Grove Business Park.
- The Parish Council feels that because it will lose Crab Hill to Wantage parish (referred to above in CGR D(24)) and possibly at Stockham Farm (referred to below in CGR C(24)), and although there are no financial implications yet, if a proportion of business rates in the future is attributed to the local parish then Grove parish could benefit from this change.
- The Parish Council feel that the Southern and Western fence line of Grove Technology Park is a suitable man-made boundary for parish identification purposes.

FC/GMM/17/01 continued.....

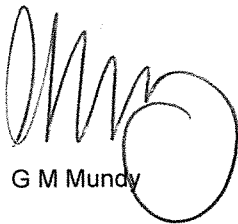
**CGR C(24) – Stockham Farm**

Grove Parish Council disagrees with the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee to include land at Stockham Farm (North of the line of the Wilts and Berks Canal) within the boundary of Wantage Parish for the following reasons:

- Grove Parish Council feel that the Community Governance and Electoral Issues Committee are somewhat short-sighted in their opinion that Downsvie Road offers a more definitive boundary than the Old Wilts and Berks Canal. There are plans to dig out the old Canal (part of the Wilts and Berks Canal Trust 'masterplan') and eventually link up to the Thames River in Abingdon which will make a more attractive parish boundary.
- Grove Parish Council also believe that the current and future residents will identify themselves as being in Grove, once the open space arising from the Grove Airfield Development is finished, the new Secondary School and up to three new Primary Schools are developed. They will also be able to enjoy a new Civic centre with shops. They also currently enjoy the Health Centre facilities (also located in Grove). In the very near future they will also enjoy the new Leisure Centre (to be located in Grove).
- The Parish Council currently receive Council tax receipts from properties at Stockham Farm and feels the loss of Stockham Farm in its entirety will be a financial burden on the remaining residents in Grove.
- Council tax receipts for Dwellings at Stockham Farm have been factored in to the calculations for future projects and if they are no longer in Grove parish, this will have a financial implication for the Parish Council.

Can you please advise me of the timetable for making these decisions and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely



G M Mundy