

# Grove and East Challow Community Governance Review: we'd like your feedback

Any personal information supplied to us within the comments that could identify anyone has been redacted and will not be shared or published in the report. Further information on data protection is available in our general consultation's privacy statement on our [South](#) or [Vale](#) website.

1. Are you responding as:				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	a resident within the parish		50.00%	4
2	someone who works within the parish		0.00%	0
3	a business / organisation operating within the parish		12.50%	1
4	a visitor or interested party		0.00%	0
5	a councillor (parish, district, county)		12.50%	1
6	an officer (parish, district, county)		12.50%	1
7	Other (please specify):		12.50%	1
			answered	8
			skipped	0
Other (please specify): (1)				
1	Oxfordshire County Councillor for East Challow			

2. If you are responding as a business / organisation, council or body please provide its name:				
Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question		100.00%	4
1	Vale Community Impact			
2	Vale of White Horse District Council			
3	East Challow Parish Council			
4	East Challow Parish Council			
			answered	4
			skipped	4

### 3. To help us analyse responses, please provide your full postcode (e.g. OX12 1XX)

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question	100.00%	7
		answered	7
		skipped	1

### 4. Which proposal would you like to comment on: Tick all that apply.

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Remove the warding arrangements for the parish of Grove, so that that the current two Grove wards are combined into one with 16 seats	 37.50%	3
2	Make no change to the boundary between Grove Parish and East Challow Parish	 87.50%	7
		answered	8
		skipped	0

### 8. How far do you support or oppose the proposal to make no change to the boundary between Grove Parish and East Challow Parish?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly support	 71.43%	5
2	Tend to support	0.00%	0
3	Neither support nor oppose	0.00%	0
4	Tend to oppose	 14.29%	1
5	Strongly oppose	0.00%	0
6	Not sure	0.00%	0
7	I don't have a view	 14.29%	1
		answered	7
		skipped	1

**9. If you have any comments to support or oppose the proposal, please provide them below:**

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question	100.00%	5
1	There was no sensible case for change, and no consideration made to unanticipated negative impacts on the existing parish. Keeping the boundaries in place is sensible.		
2	<p>I am District Councillor for Ridgeway Ward and live in East Challow. Grove Business Park was launched in the 1980's as Wantage Technology Park showing that its link was not considered to be with Grove. Its name was only changed after the original owner, BNF Metals Technology Centre, went into receivership and the new owners re-launched it with a new name to make a break with its past history.</p> <p>The proposed change is entirely unnecessary, and I cannot see any particular reason for it whether this be financial or business-related. I can only think that it is a matter of kudos in having a fairly important local cluster of companies associated with Grove.</p> <p>I want to make several points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. East Challow parish already has a good and productive working relationship with the Business Park. I have been in contact with all the major businesses there during the last 3 years and I have established a good working relationship with a number of them, including help during the Covid crisis and sending them regular reports which is appreciated. I took David Johnston MP around the Park and introduced him to some of the exciting companies active in precision engineering, metal extraction and recovery and business incubation, in addition to a national business management company with 900 staff, set up and run by an East Challow resident. I am currently trying to encourage companies and the landlord to begin installing solar panels to reduce costs and contribute to the zero-neutral-by-2030 target.</li> <li>2. Most of the companies have no idea in which parish they are situated and it means very little to them. Many staff live in East Challow and other local villages.</li> <li>3. Great play is made of the distance by road between the Park and East Challow. This was not always the case and, should the western relief road be built, which is likely to happen sometime in the future, it will again not be the case.</li> <li>4. The eastern boundary of the parish (Downsview Road) runs down the eastern side of the Business Park and is a natural boundary.</li> <li>5. Planning issues relating to Grove Business Park do not affect Grove to any greater extent than its neighbouring parishes.</li> <li>6. The change would unnecessarily affect the district ward and county division boundaries since there are no residents on the Business Park.</li> </ol>		
3	<p>Over more than thirty years there has been regular boundary reviews in which East Challow Parish has been forced to defend its boundaries against claims from the neighbouring parishes of Grove and Wantage. In every one the larger parish has gained land and housing at our expense.</p> <p>Grove Parish Council has been claiming that Grove Technology Park should be transferred into its parish with no valid reason since at least 1999.</p> <p>The site itself is closer to the village of East Challow and the current main entrance is on the very edge of the southern Grove boundary with Wantage. Downsview Road which runs west from the Mably Way roundabout to the business park makes the perfect boundary between the Parishes. Traffic from the north completely skirts Grove on the A338 and going south, east or west it has to pass through the centre of either Wantage or East Challow.</p> <p>Any future development can now only be to the west at the existing exit on Woodhill Lane (which was the historical main airfield access) as over the last ten years the site has become almost encircled by housing. A direct access west to the A417 and then on to the A420 towards the M4 or M40 is possible especially if the "west link" road is built.</p> <p>The local communities of East Challow, Wantage and Grove are equally affected by developments on Grove Technology Park and are invited to comment on any planning applications relating to it. Any planning issues relating to Grove Technology Park do not affect Grove to any greater extent than its neighbouring parishes.</p> <p>Grove Business Park was launched as a business park in the 1980's under the name Wantage Technology Park showing that its link was not considered to be with Grove. Its name was only changed after the original owner BNF Metals Technology Centre went into receivership and the new owners re-launched it with a new name to make a break with its past history.</p> <p>East Challow Parish Council has considered the following assessment criteria relating to the review and</p>		

**9. If you have any comments to support or oppose the proposal, please provide them below:**

can see no issues which are relevant to the Grove Parish Council request for a boundary change.

- natural or man-made boundaries that help to define clearly one community from another
- housing developments that straddle parish boundaries, thereby resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours
- effective and convenient representation of local residents at parish level
- the wards of Vale of White Horse District Council for the purposes of district council elections
- the divisions of Oxfordshire County Council for the purposes of county council elections
- views expressed in relation to any changes, particularly from those people directly affected
- the extent to which proposals reflect the identities and interests of the affected community elections
- the size and population of the local community

Grove Parish Council's comment that "some" businesses think they are already in Grove parish is noted although a recent business survey carried out for East Challow Neighbourhood Plan indicated that nearly all companies were satisfied with their situation. 25% of employees on the two industrial estates in East Challow parish (The W&G Estate and Grove Technology Park) live in East Challow parish. Over the last few years many productive contacts with Grove Technology Park have been made by East Challow councillors. East Challow Parish Council has been very supportive of the businesses when planning applications have been received. We do our best to support business development whilst ensuring plans are appropriate.

East Challow Parish Council therefore asks that in the current boundary review the Vale of White Horse District Council supports the existing arrangements and does not allow larger parishes to continually "asset strip" small parishes. There is no reason why Grove Technology Park should not continue to be part of East Challow parish.

- 4 As County Cllr for East Challow I strongly support making NO CHANGE to the parish boundary between Grove Parish and east Challow Parish.

There are NO REASONS to make any change: none have been declared and none have been agreed by any decision-making body over a number of years.

There are good reasons NOT to make any change : in future response to housing development around East Challow and Grove there will be a need for a western relief road from near the Grove Technology Park roundabout to the A417. This road ( already oposed by one developer) will impact East Challow residents, and it is right that the East Challow Parish Council will be the relevant council to respond to the proposals for any Western Relief Road.

- 5 East Challow Parish Council notes the proposal to make no change to the Grove/East Challow Parish boundary and would welcome/support this decision.

We reiterate the comments made in advance of the review which are as follows:-

Over more than thirty years there has been regular boundary reviews in which East Challow Parish has been forced to defend its boundaries against claims from the neighbouring parishes of Grove and Wantage. In every one the larger parish has gained land and housing at our expense.

Grove Parish Council has been claiming that Grove Technology Park should be transferred into its parish with no valid reason since at least 1999.

The site itself is closer to the village of East Challow and the current main entrance is on the very edge of the southern Grove boundary with Wantage. Downsview Road which runs west from the Mably Way roundabout to the business park makes the perfect boundary between the Parishes. Traffic from the north completely skirts Grove on the A338 and going south, east or west it has to pass through the centre of either Wantage or East Challow.

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The local communities of East Challow, Wantage and Grove are equally affected by developments on Grove Technology Park and are invited to comment on any planning applications relating to it. Any planning issues relating to Grove Technology Park do not affect Grove to any greater extent than its neighbouring parishes.

**9. If you have any comments to support or oppose the proposal, please provide them below:**

Grove Business Park was launched as a business park in the 1980's under the name Wantage Technology Park showing that its link was not considered to be with Grove. Its name was only changed after the original owner BNF Metals Technology Centre went into receivership and the new owners re-launched it with a new name to make a break with its past history.

East Challow Parish Council has considered the following assessment criteria relating to the review and can see no issues which are relevant to the Grove Parish Council request for a boundary change.

- natural or man-made boundaries that help to define clearly one community from another
- housing developments that straddle parish boundaries, thereby resulting in people being in different parishes from their neighbours
- effective and convenient representation of local residents at parish level
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East Challow Parish Council therefore asks that in the current boundary review the Vale of White Horse District Council supports the existing arrangements and does not allow larger parishes to continually "asset strip" small parishes. There is no reason why Grove Technology Park should not continue to be part of East Challow parish.

answered	5
skipped	3

**10. You can upload any supporting documents using the button below.**

File Type	Average Size	Files Uploaded
To view the files uploaded, go into the individual results.	answered	0
	skipped	8

**11. Do you have any other comments that you would like to make on the Grove and East Challow Community Governance Review 2022?**

Answer Choices	Response Percent	Response Total
1 Open-Ended Question	100.00%	3
1 No		

**11. Do you have any other comments that you would like to make on the Grove and East Challow Community Governance Review 2022?**

2 Both the County Councilor Yvonne Constance and District Councilor Paul Barrow are in favour of the boundary to remain as it is and not to change.

3 make NO CHANGE!

answered 3

skipped 5