# Wootton Community Governance Review: we'd like your feedback

1.	1. Are you responding as:				
A	Answer Choices			Response Percent	Response Total
1	a res	sident within the sh		89.67%	217
2		eone who works in the parish		0.00%	0
3		siness / organisation rating within the sh		1.65%	4
4	a vis	sitor or interested y		1.65%	4
5		uncillor (parish, ict, county)		2.48%	6
6	an o	fficer (parish, district, nty)		0.41%	1
7	Othe	er (please specify):		4.13%	10
				answered	242
				skipped	1
0	ther (p	olease specify): (10)			
	1	Boars Hill resident			
	2	i.e. a resident of Boars	Hill		
	3	I am a Boars Hill resid	ent		
	4	Boars hill resident			
	5	Boars hill resident			
	6	A RESIDENT OF BOA	RS HILL SUNNINGWELL PARISH		
	7	There appears to be n	o option to oppose both proposals which I do		
8 Previous owner and renter of Boars Hill properties					
	9	Priest-in-Charge St Pe	ters Church, Wootton		
	10	Live in neighbouring pa	arish and spend much time in Wootton.		

## 2. If you are responding as a business / organisation, council or body please provide its name:

Α	Answer Choices		Response Total
1	Open-Ended Question	100.00%	16

# 2. If you are responding as a business / organisation, council or body please provide its name:

1	Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre		
2	Cumnor Parish Council		
3	The Greater World		
4	Sunningwell Parish Counci		
5	N/A		
6	HOME		
7	Oxford Pro Musica Singers		
8	Pharmacy		
9	University of Oxford		
10	personal		
11 Wootton Parish Council			
12	12 As Priest-in-Charge of St Peters Church		
13	Wootton parish council		
14	Sunningwell Parish Council		
15	Wootton Allotments		
16	Wootton Parish Council		
		answered	16
		skipped	227

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

Answer Choices		Response Total
1 Open-Ended Question	100.00%	228
	answered	228
	skipped	15

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

4	Answer Choices	Response Percent	Response Total
1	Make no change to the boundary between Sunningwell Parish and Wootton and Cumnor parishes	93.83%	228

# 4. Which proposal would you like to comment on: Tick all that apply. 2 Amend the name of Wootton parish to include the name Boars Hill 68.31% 166 answered 243 skipped 0

#### Wootton and Boars Hill parish name change

## 9. How far do you support or oppose the proposal to amend the name of Wootton parish to include the name Boars Hill?

Ar	Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total
1	Strongly support		31.71%	52
2	Tend to support		5.49%	9
3	Neither support or oppose		0.61%	1
4	Tend to oppose		0.61%	1
5	Strongly oppose		61.59%	101
6	Not sure		0.00%	0
7	I don't have a view		0.00%	0
			answered	164
			skipped	79

An	Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total		
1	1 Open-Ended Question		100.00%	83		
	1	This would help reinforce the joint nature of the Parish and also help to distinguish it from the other Wootton in Oxfordshire and indeed other Wootton's further afield.				
	2	The geographical area is known as boars hill currently sits within 4 Parishes and it is wholly disingenuous to amend the name of one Parish to include the name of Boars Hill. The recent survey undertaken by the Boars Hill association identified that the majority of residents within Boars Hill would prefer to have become a united community with the Parish of Sunningwell.				
The deeds to my house and the land registry both refer to here as Lower Woodstill the same house.  Sounds like a reasonable compromise abs reflects the area covered more account of the same house.		tton, Boars Hil	I . It's			
		urately.				

5	I don't care what it is called only what it does. Bow to the rich and allow the name change.
6	This just feels more inclusive and should mitigate some of the Boars Hill Association concerns re their exclusion.
7	The resident of Boars Hill play an integral part in our parish life and should rightly be included in the Parish name, just as Boars Hill is included in our official postal address in Wootton.
8	Wootton should include Boars Hill
9	We live in Wootton but we acknowledge that Boars Hill is a large geographical component of our parish.
10	I am taken aback at this proposal as well and am confused how it could have come out of any effective consultation
11	As a Boars Hill resident I identify much more with Sunningwell parish rather than Wootton
12	The change of parish name would achieve absolutely nothing and would therefore be a pointless exercise.
13	Boars Hill to be in own parish, combined with Sunningwell.
14	None
15	<ol> <li>The name would be clearly misleading by seemingly subsuming the whole of Boars Hill within Wootton, which it is not and never has been.</li> <li>Boars Hill as a whole has no wish to become in name a part of the Parish of Wootton.</li> <li>Those residents of Wootton, who currently have a Boars Hill post code, need not have any concerns by the boundary change, that they would lose their OX1 postcode. Nothing need change.</li> </ol>
16	Not necessary to change the name, as part of Boars Hill is within Sunningwell parish.
17	This ignores the majority support for the oroginal petition.
18	Changing the name from "Wootton" to "Wootton and Boars Hill" would make no sense as half of Boars Hill is already in Sunningwell parish.
	Boars Hill makes up a very small percentage of Wootton parish. Wootton has three times the population of Sunningwell and, even after the requested change incorporating Boars Hill into Sunningwell parish, Wootton would remain substantially larger. This excludes any potential new housing developments which would make Wootton larger yet.
19	I think Boars Hill should be consolidated into one parish and that parish should be Sunningwell.
20	One of the main complaints Boars Hill residents have about being part of Wootton Parish is that our opinions on many matters were completely ignored and now you have done it again by not including in the choices available exactly what we are asking for, to become part of Sunningwell Parish.
21	See my comments in response to previous question, which I repeat here.
22	Wootton parish is mostly suburban and Boars Hill residents cannot be represented by Wootton parish in which they are a small minority. At least half of us are in the parish of Sunningwell, by which we should be represented, if necessary by moving the boundary to include us all in Sunningwell.
23	This change has not been requested by the residents of Boars Hill. We DO NOT want to remain as a disconnected part of Wooton parish. We want to be joined with the other part of the Boars Hill community in the Sunningwell parish
24	What is the point of changing the name of wootton to include boars hill when half of boars hill is not within wootton parish? Boars hill fits better with Sunningwell and would have a better voice within Sunningwell parish.
25	Changing the name from "Wootton" to "Wootton and Boars Hill" would be a nonsense as half of Boars Hill is already in Sunningwell. So this must not be allowed to happen.

26	The clear desire of Boars Hill residents is to combine their area with Sunningwell, with whom we have far more issues in common than with Cumnor of Wootton. We have carried out extensive consultation and a vote to this effect. We are puzzled, if not vexed, as to why this option is not included in the current proposals. The process now suggested appears wasteful and antidemocratic by ignoring clearly stated wishes of residents.
27	Strongly oppose as the residents of boars hill have already voted to become part of sunningwell parish. Shocked you are ignoring this vote.
28	As said before we have already voted to join sunningwell parish and do not understand why our vote and wishes are being ignored.
29	See previous comments. This is not the will of the residents
30	A sizeable part of Boars Hill is outside of Wootton parish and lies within Sunningwell Parish. It would be nonsense (and confusing to many) to change the name to include Wootton when so much of Boars Hill is within Sunningwell parish.
*31*	It would be confusing to have this name as part of Boars Hill is within Sunningwell parish anyway. Please look at the petition and take note of local views.
32	If the boundary is moved (as the Boar's Hill residents wish) then Boar's Hill isn't in Wootton. If the boundary is not moved (against their wishes) then part of Boar's Hill is in Sunningwell Parish so it is illogical to change the name
33	there is no reason to incorpore B's Hill into Wootton, we ourselves at in the Sunningwell area 10 m from the Wootton limit which is in the middle of a wallWe do not want to be part of a different village.
34	Only the ones I've already made previously.
35	The Wootton Council does not represent Boars Hill and I strongly oppose the change.
36	Boars Hill should be in the parish of Sunningwell, not Wootto, as requested by the majority of Boars Hill Residents.
37	Again,this proposal does not take into account the majority view .
38	I live at the end of Lincombe Lane spur, I strongly support changing our parish to Sunningwell. We feel as if we are part of Sunningwell not Wootton. I do not think just the name should change to include Wootton and Boars Hill
39	Entirely unnecessary
40	This proposal would make no sense with half of Boars Hill remaining in Wootton, and the majority of its residents wishing to be included in Sunningwell.
41	Boars Hill is split between two parishes, so by calling Wootton Wootton and Boars Hill that is wrongly representing that all of Boars hill is within Wootton parish, which is not the case.
42	This should be a vote only for boars hill
43	I believe that the suggestion to change the name of Wootton Parish Council to Wootton and Boars Hill Parish Council makes no sense whatsoever when half of the Boars Hill area will remain part of the Sunningwell parish. Such a name would be erroneous and false and would leave the boars Hill residents who still live in the Sunningwell parish feeling even more confused by loss of identity.
44	A large part of Boars Hill (old designation) has a strong connection to Old Wootton Village through the Church and C of E primary school which many people that I know have no wish to break. Boars Hill (old designation) and the Boars Hill post code area are strongly connected to Wootton PC because of shops, dentist, bus service etc. The local cricket club, whose grounds are owned by the Parish Council, is know as the Wootton and Boars Hill Cricket Club (and from what I can see are doing reasonably well in the league). In the past Wootton PC has rejected requests from Boars Hill residents to support public meetings in relation to the Oxford Cambridge Expressway. The grounds for rejection of such a public meeting were that 'we don't want to worry local residents unnecessarily' and that 'we know best'. Other request for help/support were also rejected by Wootton PC. It was the intransigence of Wootton PC to engage with the concerns of Boars Hill residents that prompted the attempt of Boars Hill to distance itself from Wootton PC.

The current group of councillors on Wootton PC are more sympathetic to the concerns of Boars Hill residents, who really don't ask for very much generally but would actually like to be to listened to. Also, they need to be ready to embrace Boars Hill residents as candidates to fill the vacancies on the Parish Council. Under the past regime Boars Hill residents who have become Parish Councillors have been made so uncomfortably that they have resigned within months of being appointed. Finally, I would say that I have few problems about amending the name of Wootton PC (at least in the short term) because I think that Boars Hill has more connection with Wootton than with Sunningwell. The concern that some Boars Hill residents have is that if the Wootton PC name is changed to include Boars Hill (cricket club precedent) what happens to the part of Boars Hill that is currently within Sunningwell? Perhaps all the more reason to give Boars Hill its own Parish Council. Boars Hill is closer to Sunningwell. We have closer links with Sunningwell, and are currently part of 45 Sunningwell parish council. We do not wish to be moved against our will into a less rural/agricultural parish with which we have no links and no connection. 46 See previous comments. We are currently part of Sunningwell parish and do not wish the will of Wootton or Cumnor to be permitted to change this against our will. This suggestion is untenable. Half of Boars Hill residences are actually in Sunningwell Parish. It 47 would be confusing and is a blatant attempt of WPC to try to prevent Boars Hill being united as one parish in Sunningwell. It just doesn't make sense as Boars Hill is a very small portion of total Wootton population. This suggestion has been proposed only in response to the Boars Hill residents wanting to be in a single parish not split over 3 parishes. This is a nonsense and cannot be allowed. It is already a part of the address for most residents so formalising it will make no difference but might ease postal issues etc... You cannot change the name to Wootton and Boars Hill as half of the residences on Boars Hill are 49 in Sunningwell Parish. I strongly support this name change to include Boars Hill. Boars Hill as a geological feature 50 extends extensively through Wootton Parish and it can be argued that, with the exception of Lamborough Hill, the entire Parish is on the Hill. Before it was diverted in the 1930s a ditch ran continously with water from the top through Wootton Village and Wootton to Dry Sandford Parish. In the other direction the Hill definitely extends to Henwood and towards Cumnor in Wootton Parish. The majority of addresses in Wootton Parish have historically been written as Wootton, Boars Hill. Many Sat Navs and Online search engines already use Wootton - Boars Hill to distinguish between this Parish and Wootton near Woodstock and Wootton in Northamptonshire. We wish to remain in Sunningwell Parish. It reflects our agricultural environment and they have always been supportive of us and our needs. We certainly have NO wish to be taken over by Wootton parish which is mainly an increasingly residential parish. Boars Hill residents, who are presently included in Wootton, have expressed a two-thirds majority to leave Wootton and join Sunningwell Parish as they feel their views are being ignored to such an extent by Wootton Council, that those who have served on it have seen no purpose in remaining as serving members and have consequently resigned. The reasons BH residents want the change are two: (1) unite all BH under parish (2) separate from Wootton which over many years has provided administration consistently biased against BH. A change of name would address neither issue -- just a sticking plaster offered by Wootton councillors whose only real concern is to preserve the status quo. "pick simples for a cancer" 53 54 I strongly oppose changing the name to Wootton and Boars Hill Parish as a large part of Boars Hill is in Sunningwell. I live in the part of Boars Hill that is in Sunningwell parish and for the Wootton Parish to include the name Boars Hill is ridiculous and complete nonsense. There could be widespread confusion if this was to happen. This is a cynical rouse to circumvent the overriding wish of Boars Hill residents to be part of Sunningwell parish! I view this proposal to be almost criminal given the recent voting wish of Boars Hill residents to join Sunningwell parish. The council that has tabled this motion should be thoroughly ashamed of themselves!

56	There is no logic in such a suggestion, only more confusion.
57	See previous comments mutatis mutandis
58	This proposal would be misleading and incorrect
59	Boars Hill residents overwhelmingly are against incorporation into Wootton Parish or, for the part of Boars Hill already part of that parish, against continuing to remain part of it. There is little natural affinity between Boars Hill and Wootton rather, a good deal of antipathy. There is natural affinity with Sunningwell, and a desire on the part of the vast majority of Boars Hill residents to remain or become part of Sunningwell parish (depending on which part of Boars Hill they live in). There seems no credible reason to have Boars Hill as part of Wootton parish, and to rename the parish in the face of Boars Hill residents' polled opinions seems gratuitous, indeed hostile.
60	Residents living in the Wootton and Cumnor parts of Boars Hill have requested that the parish boundaries of Boars Hill are amended to include all of Boars Hill into a single parish, specifically into Sunningwell Parish. The democratic will of residents demonstrated less than a year ago by the Parish Boundary petition is clearly to be part of Sunningwell and not to be subsumed into the much larger Wootton parish.
61	as above
62	Half of Boars hill is already in sunningwell parish and Boars hill makes up a small proportion of Wootton parish so this does not make sense. Instead makes sense to move boundary to put all of boars hill into sunningwell and boars hill parish.
63	Amending the name of Wootton parish to include the name Boars Hill would be misleading as not all of Boars Hill is part of Wootton parish.
64	Well half of Boars Hill is in Sunningwell parish anyway so renaming the parish of Wootton to that of Wootton and Boars hill is a total nonsense do you have total idiots who dream up this rubbish?
65	This suggestion does not take into account that a large majority of residents on Boars Hill would prefer to be properly a part of Sunningwell Parish.
66	I do not believe the interests of Boars Hill resident's will be best served by this change as confirmed by recent resignations from Wootton Parish Council by Boars Hill residents.
67	It's like combining chalk with cheese. Nothing on common and nothing to link them.
68	This will be confusing, when the parish only includes part of Boars Hill. We live in Boars Hill, but not in Wootton parish.
69	Two thirds of residents living in the Wootton part of Boars Hill signed the petition requesting the change of parish boundary, specifically to include all of Boars Hill into Sunningwell Parish. STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposal to amend the name of Wootton parish to include the name Boars Hill. Half of Boars Hill is already in Sunningwell.  The request was for a change of parish boundary not a play with the name!
70	This proposal has no merit in the context of the Terms of Reference.
	In particular, the following four reasons indicate the proposal is a non-starter:
	1. Boars Hill is split roughly 50/50 between Wootton Parish and Sunningwell Parish. To attach the name Boars Hill to Wootton implies Boar's Hill in its entirety is located with Wootton. That would be a major misrepresentation.
	2. If, in the alternative, Sunningwell were to do the same, Wootton Parish would object on the same grounds. There is no case to say either Parish has the right, by so mis-naming itself, contrary to the facts.
	3. Residents views of all Boars Hill have not been sought. This is a single glaring omission which should make the proposal fail. The change would be unreasonable without public representation. In fact, a private survey in the possession of the Council has found residents do not want this proposal; they want to be with another Parish, Sunningwell.
	4. The approximately 50% of Boars Hill is a small part of Wootton Parish and does not warrant

including in the name. Dry Sandford would have equal of more population and therefore it follows, that the name would have to be "Wootton, Dry Sandford and Boars Hill Parish Council" which is clearly too long a name. The Parish should retain its existing name since Wootton is the majority element of the population. On the basis of these critical and each over-riding reasons I urge the Council to withdraw and reject this proposal. I suggest proceeding this proposal will bring the Parish into disrepute, which would be a shame given its otherwise excellent work for the residents of Wootton. 71 This is purely political with NO benefit to residents. I am very surprised it is even raised. Boars Hill residents overwhelmingly want to be part of Sunningwell Parish. This has been proved by a local vote - this vote should be respected by the parish councils. 73 Boars Hill residents strongly wish to be part of Sunningwell parish as evidenced by a recent vote of residents. The councils should respect the outcome of this vote and not try to circumvent it. We as a Parish Council have only recently been made aware of the feeling of a lack of inclusion of some residents on Boars Hill. We therefore think it's imperative that the name is changed as a small step to making them feel more part of the Parish. We currently have two spare vacancies on the PC and have offered these seats to anyone on Boars Hill. In addition, I, as chair of the PC, have asked to see if I can attend any meetings that might occur for residents in the area. I'm still awaiting a positive response but we're truly trying to be more inclusive now we're aware some people think it's a problem. I see that Wootton parish are now trying to prevent the requested boundary change by suggesting a change in the parish name which would be very confusing. A moment's thought would soon reveal the stupidity of this as Sunningwell parish could ask for the same and if you support Wootton you cannot then refuse Sunningwell. Clearly neither parish should try to include Boars Hill in their name as, at present, neither has a monopoly on Boars Hill. It seems to me that Wootton are just trying to keep the western part of Boars Hill, which has asked to leave, as they need their council tax to repay the loan they had to take out to build the fancy village hall they could not afford! For many years, and certainly since its reforming in 1998, the cricket club in Wootton has the full title Wootton and Boars Hill Cricket Club and has played under this name in both the Oxfordshire Cricket Association and Cherwell Leagues since joining both leagues. Not only with the cricket club, but throughout the village, Boars Hill residents have been welcomed to clubs and societies run in the Village both in the Community Centre and beyond. It seems very appropriate that the Parish Council adopt the example of the cricket club and include Boars Hill in their title to make the inclusion clear. It will clarify the important place that BH has within the parish. 77 78 I think this would be a good idea, Wootton already has Wootton and Boars hill cricket club. 79 The attempt by Wootton Parish Council to add Boars Hill to their name is clearly an afterthought in an attempt to placate disatisfied residents whose council tax funding for their costly village hall they are loath to lose. Such a name change would also make no sense at all since half of Boars Hill is already part of Sunningwell and thus Wootton cannot claim the name Boars Hill any more than Sunningwell could with the existing boundaries. It is astonishing that those in charge of Wootton PC should even suggest this knowing the confusion it would cause - something which perhaps the VoWH DC should have pointed out to them. To change the name of Wootton Parish to include Boars Hill when not all of Boars Hill is in the Parish of Wootton will be massively undemocratic. The door step survey gathers by the BHA in 2021 clearly demonstrates that a significant position of the households in the Boar's hill area do not identify as being part of Wootton, and to force this change upon them without their explicit consent would be entirely undemocratic and further reduce the faith and support the general population has in our public bodies, elected or employed. My request is that no change is made at this time and a single engagement that considers all appropriate options is planned after the next local election. We consider that the request by Wootton Parish Council (WPC) to add Boars Hill to its name at this time is just a belated attempt to mollify residents living in the western part of Boars Hill who voted so significantly to leave Wootton parish. This request by WPC to include the name of Boars Hill should be summarily dismissed as a non sequitur. Notwithstanding SPC's request that the parish boundaries be changed, if nevertheless they were to remain unchanged, it would make no sense at all, and indeed be confusing, to have part of Boars Hill linked by name with one parish and the other part not linked to the other parish. If the WPC request for a name change were to be granted

then ipso facto a similar request from Sunningwell PC which includes eastern Boars Hill would have to be accepted. SPC considers that neither parish name should be changed. A name change for part only of Boars Hill would also infuriate the residents of the community of Boars Hill itself who have made no such request.

- 82 This will give the parish a more unique identity
- 83 Response below received via email.

Wootton Parish Council supports the change of name to the Wootton and Boars Hill Parish Council. There are several reasons for this.

It would distinguish the Wootton/ Abingdon Council from the other Wootton Parish Council in Oxfordshire and the host of other Woottons in England (in Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, and so on).

It seems strange that when the original council was established in the late nineteenth century that the proposed name was not adopted, given that the parish was formed from two hamlets and Boars Hill was developing fast as place to live for affluent Oxford dons, such as Sir Arthur Evans. Indeed, on Social Media Apps, such as Nextdoor, the area "Boars Hill" covers the Wootton, Boars Hill, Henwwod and Whitecross, largely reflecting the existing Parish Boundary.

The Parish Council recognizes that residents of Boars Hill have developed an understandable pride in maintaining the special visual aspect of their area and that some among them feel that the area's unique heritage is not fully appreciated by other sections of the village. Renaming the Parish Council would be one way of demonstrating that Boars Hill is a much-loved part of the village, whose artistic and intellectual history gives it an important place in the life of the county and the country, not just Wootton.

Renamed or not, the Parish Council looks forward to working closely with the Boars Hill Association to maintain the beauty and character of this special area. It hopes, too, that a member of the Association will be willing to come on the Council and help us continue our vision of turning the entire village into a community that would have warmed the heart of Matthew Arnold and all the other poets and writers forever associated with this unique part of our parish.

In summary, Wootton Parish Council wish for the existing Parish boundary to be maintained and we feel that given the Neighbourhood Plan has been made and covers the whole of our parish and that of St Helen Without PC it would be incredibly complicated to amend any boundary. However, we would like the Parish to be renamed to be more inclusive of all the areas of our Parish and to differentiate ourselves from other similarly named parishes.

answered	83
skipped	160

## 11. Do you have any other comments that you would like to make on the Sunningwell, Wootton and Cumnor Community Governance Review 2022?

Answer Choices		Response Percent	Response Total			
1	Open-Ended Question		100.00%	57		
	1	Whenever boundaries are reviewed there is always in my mind a suspicion of gerrymandering. This suspicion would be allayed by more open consultation before the publication of the final documents.				
	2	The strength of feeling in the Community is very clear and should be taken into majority of the parish does not wish to be divided.	consideration.	The		
	3	As I live within Wootton village it does not seem to me theres any practical sens residence requesting to leave Wootton parish as Sunningwell Village have very				

did come about with the residents of Boars Hill Reticence still expect to use all the amenities which

	they are no doubt enjoying at this moment of Wootton Parish  There is also the point to make hear of the financing this move of those without any contribution to the parishes.	
4	None, totally agree to keep the make up of the community as it currently is	
5	Don't make any changes. Those in Wootton recognise ourselves as being part of the wider area	
6	Sunningwell should be included in the name.	
7	I really appreciate you sharing this info and asking for feedback	
8	Not at this time unfortunately as I have only just moved to wootton village and it would be a shame if they include boars hill in the boundary so I oppose it.	
9	no	
10	I am disappointed that after significant Boars Hill community commentary that these are the two poorly considered and designed points for consultation. It reinforces the idea that current governance processes are not working effectively.	
11	Listen to the Boars Hill Association who are more closely involved in the community here and able to speak for us with authority. They know the feelings of the community.	
12	None	
13	It make sense to join Sunningwell parish as all residents of Boars Hill would be united, under one governance structure, which must be better for local democracy.	
14	I am shocked to find that the proposal made by the majority of Boars Hill residents has been totally ignored. Why doesn't Wootton parish listen, even to its own Boars Hill residents?	
15	See my comments to previous question which I repeat here. I wish Boars Hill to be joined as a parish with Sunningwell.	
16	A massive planning application by Peking University Business School is pending, but it lies on the boundary of Wootton parish. while much of the site is in Sunningwell. Division of interest between the two parishes is highly undesirable, especially as it separated from a nature conservation area in Sunningwell, by a two strand barbed wire fence, and the whole area is in the Green Belt.	
17	No. I expect you will do what you want despite the clearly expressed view of boars hill residents to change the boundaries so that all of boars hill is within Sunningwell parish.	
18	No further comment.	
19	Residents of boars hill have voted to join sunningwell parish council.	
20	As before we have already voted to join sunningwell parish and strongly oppose your options.	
21	In a recent poll two thirds of Boars Hill residents who voted wished the boundaries to be changed so that Boars Hill fell wholly within Sunningwell Parish. Why isn't this option made available to vote upon?	
22	Please refer to the petition already given to you.	
23	It is very odd that the question says "no change" when that is not what the Boar's Hill residents wished.	
24	why is the district counsel interfering in parish business and trying to overturn parish council decisions?	
25	Yes. Speak to the Boars Association Chairman and members. I accept and support their views.	
26	Listen to the residents of Boars Hill	
27	No	
28	Unite Boars Hill in Sunningwell Parish	
29	I thought we had already voted to change the boundaries to join Sunningwell. Why has this been raised again? It doesn't feel very democratic.	

- 30 Very poor questions to vote on. Most un democratic
- 31 No
- 32 To allow the part of Boars Hill that at present is within the Wootton parish to be taken into the Sunningwell parish is the only sensible move that will reinforce community representation and action.
- 33 I think I have already made all the comments that it is necessary/relevant to make, BUT:

Boars Hill is a very close-knit community. The Boars Hill Association, started by Maud and Abi Rosenthal about 50 years go, have a programme of talks and social events which local residents take part in. Historically, Boars Hill is know nationally and internationally because of its connections academically with the University but also because of the artist, sculptors (such as Oscar Nemon) and poets - too many to mention (although get a copy of "Oxford's Parnassus" by Philip Stewart if you want to know about our poets) - who have made Boars Hill their home. It has connections with Laurence of Arabia and has been referred to in such novels at "Brideshead Revisited".

Essentially, I get back to the fact that Boars Hill is unique locally and deserves its own Parish Council in early (2 years) course.

- It would have been helpful if this review had taken into account the petition which was already run concerning this issue, and which demonstrated a clear desire on the part of the majority (2/3) of Boars Hill residents to be part of Sunningwell parish. Setting up a review in way that has been performed here presupposes a specific outcome, and it is clear from the previous petition that that outcome is not the one favoured by a majority of residents.
  - I do not understand how the opinion of Wootton residents (who outnumber Boars Hill residents) should not be allowed to influence any suggested move for Boars Hill residents out of their current Sunningwell parish. This is surely a matter for Boars Hill and Sunningwell.
- 35 Please note the previous petition stating that the majority of Boars Hill residents would like to be united in a single parish with Sunningwell NOT with Wootton or Cumnor.
- I am saddened that the proposal to move the boundary appears to have been driven by the 'Boars Hill Residents Association' whose members dominate Sunningwell Parish Council. These two organisations have in effect self proclaimed themselves as the only residents of Boars Hill. As stated previously they are incorrect. Boars Hill extends far beyond the proposed boundary change. I am upset that Sunningwell Parish Council has taken the consultation of the Boars Hill Residents Association as being the wishes of all of Boars Hill. If the proposal is supported to change the boundary I fear it will have been driven by affluence and a desire for segregation from others less well-off and I want no part of it. If the boundary change goes ahead then it would over-dominate the less well off Residents in Sunningwell Parish. The Wootton & Boars Hill Parish name change is a good idea. As stated previously Wootton Parish is predominately on Boars Hill and is reflected in houses addresses already.

#### 37 DO NOT MERGE WITH WOTTON

- 38 We are shocked and greatly disturbed that the petition by the two-thirds majority of residents of Boars Hill included at present in Wootton and Cumnor Parishes to join Sunningwell Parish has been completely ignored,
- 39 I responded earlier -- two responses, one to each question (it seems one combined response was not allowed).

In my response to the name change proposal I might have ticked 'strongly support' when I meant to check 'strongly oppose'.

I am submitting this response now in order to change my earlier response to what I really meant: strongly oppose.

- <redacted>
- <redacted>
- 40 Please seriously consider other proposals as the ones that have been suggested are unsatisfactory.
- 41 It is very clear that the vast majority of Boars Hill residents wish to be part of Sunningwell parish. The local councils should agree to the wishes of Boars Hill residents and not play games with motions tabled like these 2!
- 42 The substantial majority of those residents of Boars Hill who at the moment fall within Wootton have clearly supported the amalgamation of the Whole of Boars Hill within Sunningwell.

- 43 You appear to have ignored the petition change of boundary issued some months ago... Why?
- 44 No.
- There is no reason to change traditional parish boundaries as far as I can see apart from perhaps vanity which should not be encouraged or supported in these matters.
- The proposals seem perverse, and fly in the face of reason and the opinions of those most directly affected by the proposals. Please reconsider, and consider the third proposal -- to make all of Boars Hill part of Sunningwell Parish. Thank you
- 47 The review should reflect the democratically expressed wishes of the residents of the Wootton and Cumnor parts of Boars Hill to be part of Sunningwell parish.
- The Governance Review has come up with two proposals which do not reflect the wishes of the residents of Boars Hill at all. The vast majority of Boars Hill residents want to belong to a single parish and for that parish to be Sunningwell. Neither wish is reflected in the two proposals, which seems perplexing and undemocratic.
- 49 A short time ago I did complete this survey but think that I failed to submit it, therefore I am completing again for submission.
- It's not clear where the proposal for change came from, or that it delivers any benefit to the residents of Boars Hill. Is this a squabble between the existing parish councils over money?

  Uniting Boars Hill into a separate parish would seem to provide a single area with common interests across it. I have no idea whether this would work in terms of process or finances.
- Proper consideration should be given to the recent boundary change request on behalf of the Boars Hill community. The relevant councils should proactively engage with local residents expressing reasonable comments and wishes. During this recent process that engagement has not always been evident. Interested parties have been excluded from relevant communications from the authorities. Some political maneuvering at the highest level has been apparently evidenced.
- 52 I would expect to hear in advance about these proposals. Democracy depends on voters being able to consider proposals with more involvemnet of the Council officers.
- 53 Respect the outcome of the Boars Hill residents vote to be part of Sunningwell parish.
- In Summary I strongly support the proposal NOT to make a boundary change and to rename the Parish for the following reasons:

#### 1. History

The civil parish of Wootton has existed for more than a century and today is an evolving, dynamic community with a genuine identity.

Until the late nineteenth century, the hamlets of Wootton and Old Boars Hill were outlying parts of Cumnor parish. Since then they have formed a separate parish with the same boundaries as today and over the years have developed into a single large village of some 3,000 inhabitants, centred around the Besselsleigh Rd shops, the Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre and the Bystander Public House. Although different parts of the village, such as Old Wootton, Boars Hill, and the B4017 corridor, have their distinctive social and architectural characters, the village is a well-integrated community, as is evidenced in the replies to the questionnaire sent out in preparing our Joint Neighbourhood Plan with St Helen Without (made December 2019). This showed a strong feeling of belonging to a neighbourhood and strong satisfaction with the area as a place to live. Wootton is an economically and socially diverse community with an evolving ethnic mix which reflects the present character of Britain in the twenty-first century.

#### 2. Administration

Wootton Parish Council is in the fortunate position of having made a Neighbourhood Plan that gives the Council and its constituents a legally binding say in the future development of the existing parish.

Wootton Parish Council (and St Helen Without Parish Council, as it was a joint plan) have had a fully made Neighbourhood Plan in place since 2019. Neighbourhood Plans that have already been finalised and adopted cannot be revoked even if parish boundaries are changed. Thus, our Plans' policies will remain in place and be enforced for the area of land that they cover, even if that land becomes part of a different parish. Moreover, any amendments made to our Neighbourhood Plan in

the future would still apply to Boars Hill, and Sunningwell Parish Council would have to apply those new Neighbourhood Plan policies. In addition, as Neighbourhood Plans' areas cannot overlap, Sunningwell Parish Council cannot create a Neighbourhood Plan that includes the area of ours. Moving Boars Hill into Sunningwell Parish, therefore, opens up a can of worms.

#### 3. Finances

The boundary change would have a detrimental effect on the finances of Wootton Parish Council and its ability to meet its current obligations and aims.

In 2010, Wootton Parish Council took out a government loan of £60,000 to support the redevelopment of the Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre, a vital parish amenity. The loan was for fifty years at a fixed interest rate of 4.6 per cent. Each year the Council makes repayments of £3,076.60, and the current outstanding loan in £55,003.91. The total cost of repayment over 50 years is £153, 830. In consequence, Wootton Parish Council is committed to putting aside £3,000 p.a. to pay off the loan until 2060. At present, Wootton Parish Council receives a precept of c. £60,000. This is a large enough sum to allow the Council to put aside £3,000 per annum to pay off the loan without undue difficulty. Were Boars Hill to be detached from Wootton, the precept would be considerably reduced, as the precept is determined by the size of the population, and the percentage of the budget dedicated each year to paying off the loan increased. This would mean that the Council would no longer have the same amount of money each year to enhance traffic-controlling measures, which is a present priority, and the broader quality of life in the parish to which it is committed in accordance with its made Neighbourhood Plan. With a lower precept, for instance, it would not have been possible to create the recently established Children's Community Park opposite the church, which each year is being improved.

#### 4. Fairness

The residents of Boars Hill have always made full use of the Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre and belong to many of the societies that enjoy its facilities.

As Sunningwell Parish has no equivalent Community Centre, the Boars Hill residents will continue to do use WADSCC, just as they will continue to use the other amenities in the village, such as the cricket club and field (already called The Wootton and Boars Hill Cricket Club), primary school, St Peter's church and the community park. All these community facilities are supported financially by Wootton Parish Council either directly or indirectly (through a grant to the Wootton Primary School PTA to provide laptops for home learning during lockdown, for instance). It seems very unjust that the residents of a new, smaller Wootton Parish should pay a higher proportion per head towards repaying the Community Centre loan and maintaining other existing amenities in the village, while residents of Boars Hill, who use these facilities, contribute nothing at all. It is all the more unfair that as the overall precept will be smaller, the amount available to spend on these local amenities will be reduced.

- It is quite surprising and extremely disappointing to find that the VoWH District Council seems to have gone out of its way to circumvent the clearly expressed wishes of our Boars Hill community.
- The process has been really confusing and I didn't realise we needed to complete a second survey having already done one
- 57 No other comments apart from it would be a shame. Wootton has a lot of facilities and hardworking members of our Parish try their best for our community with little funding as it is.

answered	57
skipped	186