
Parish Orders

Report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The District Council concluded its review of parish boundaries and electoral arrangements in January 2008. Following consideration of the final recommendations, the Department for Communities and Local Government has issued a Statutory Instrument - The Huntingdonshire (Parishes) Order 2009 - which comes into effect on 1st April 2010.

2. COUNCIL ORDERS

- 2.1 The Council at its meeting held on 20th February 2008 agreed to make appropriate orders under the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 to change the size of membership of certain Councils unaffected by the boundary changes.
- 2.2 Although the review was concluded under the latter Act, this has been repealed and replaced by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. This continues to allow the Council the discretion of making appropriate local orders in relation to parish councils.
- 2.3 Arising from the changes to parish boundaries and the new scale of parish council representation agreed by the Council as part of its review, it is now necessary for local orders to be made, where appropriate, in respect of the parishes affected by the boundary changes to
- ◆ Change the size of various parish councils' membership;
 - ◆ Alter the number of councillors to be elected for wards of parishes; and
 - ◆ Establish new parish councils.

3. WYTON-ON-THE-HILL PARISH

- 3.1 As part of the parish review, the parish of Houghton and Wyton will be split to form a new parish of Wyton-on-the-Hill. Previously the parish was warded with 9 councillors representing Houghton and Wyton Ward and 4 councillors representing the Airfield Ward. The Council has been directed by the Order to create a new parish council for the new parish.

- 3.2 The Parish Council of Wyton-on-the-Hill will consist of 7 parish councillors in accordance with the agreed ratio and an election will take place on 6th May 2010. Councillors will hold office for a period of five years to bring the next election into line with District Council elections for the Ward of Upwood and The Raveleys in which the new parish will be situated.
- 3.3 The parish of Houghton and Wyton will retain a Parish Council with a membership of 9 councillors.

4. OFFORD CLUNY AND OFFORD D'ARCY PARISHES

- 4.1 The parishes of Offord Cluny and Offord D'Arcy were grouped under a common Parish Council of Offord Cluny and Offord D'Arcy with effect from 1st May 2008 consisting of 11 councillors. This Order was approved at the meeting of the Council held on 20th February 2008 as a temporary expedient to formalise the parishes as one body. The Huntingdonshire (Parishes) Order 2009 has abolished the parishes of Offord Cluny and Offord D'Arcy as separate parishes and constituted a new parish of Offord Cluny and Offord D'Arcy.
- 4.2 Again the District Council is directed by the Order to create a parish council for the new parish. The Parish Council of Offord Cluny and Officer D'Arcy will consist of 11 councillors and an election will take place on 6th May 2010 as part of the normal cycle of meetings.

5. WARESLEY AND TETWORTH PARISHES

- 5.1 The parishes of Waresley and Tetworth have been amalgamated by the Order into a new parish of Waresley-cum-Tetworth. A parish council currently exists for Waresley consisting of 5 councillors, and the Council is directed to establish a new parish council for Waresley-cum-Tetworth. This will retain the same level of membership.
- 5.2 An election will take place on 6th May 2010. The normal cycle of elections for the existing Parish Council of Waresley would require a further election in 2011. However there will also be an election for one of the two district councillors for the Ward of Gransden and The Offords in 2010 and the cycle of meetings for the new Parish of Waresley-cum-Tetworth will be changed to coincide with that four yearly cycle.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 As a result of the conclusion of the parish review, the Council is therefore

RECOMMENDED

to make orders under the relevant legislation to -

- (a) reduce the membership of Fenstanton Parish Council from 15 to 13 councillors for the election of parish councillors on 5th May 2011;
- (b) increase the membership of Huntingdon Town Council from 16 to 19 councillors of whom 8 shall be elected by the East Ward, 4 by the North Ward and 7 by the West Ward for the election of councillors on 5th May 2011;
- (c) reduce the membership of The Stukeleys Parish Council from 13 to 9 councillors for the election of parish councillors on 6th May 2010;
- (d) increase the membership of St. Ives Town Council from 16 to 17 councillors of whom 7 shall be elected by the East Ward, 7 by the South Ward and 3 by the West Ward for the election of councillors on 3rd May 2012;
- (e) increase the membership of St. Neots Town Council from 18 to 21 councillors of whom 5 shall be elected by the Eaton Ford Ward, 4 by the Eaton Socon Ward, 7 by the Eynesbury Ward, 4 by the Priory Park Ward and 1 by the East Ward for the election of councillors on 5th May 2011;
- (f) establish a Parish Council of 7 councillors for the parish of Wyton-on-the-Hill and arrange for an election for the new Council on 6th May 2010, the councillors to hold office until the normal date for election in 2015 and elections held every four years thereafter;
- (g) retain a Parish Council for the parish of Houghton and Wyton of 9 councillors;
- (h) establish a Parish Council for the parish of Offord Cluny and Offord D'Arcy of 11 councillors and for an election for the new Council on 6th May 2010; and
- (i) establish a Parish Council for the parish of Waresley-cum-Tetworth of 5 Councillors and arrange for an election for the new Council on 6th May 2010 with elections every four years thereafter.

Contact Officer: Lisa Jablonska, Central Services Manager
☎ 01480 388004

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Correspondence on File F&GP/E/4 held in the Office of the Head of Democratic and Central Services.

Local Government and Rating Act 1997.

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Minutes and Report of the meeting of the Council - 20th February 2008.