
Parish Electoral Arrangements

Report by the Head of Democratic and Central Services

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Arising from the review of parish boundaries and electoral arrangements and subsequent issue of Statutory Instruments - The Huntingdonshire (Parishes) Order 2009 and The Huntingdonshire (Related Alterations) Order 2010 – district elections will now be held in Little Paxton and St Ives South Wards in 2011 rather than 2012. As a consequence of these alterations the election of all parish councillors for the parish of Little Paxton will not coincide with the elections in the Little Paxton Ward.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Section 16 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that parish elections shall take place every four years and can coincide with elections in associated district wards. The District of Huntingdonshire (Electoral Changes) Order 2002 makes provision for the election of all parish councillors for the parish of Little Paxton to be held simultaneously on the ordinary day of the election of councillors in 2004 and every fourth year thereafter.
- 2.2 The Huntingdonshire (Related Alterations) Order 2010 provides for a district election to be held in the Little Paxton Ward in 2011 rather than 2012 as a consequence of the alignment of the ward and parish boundaries. This can be attributed to the fact that the electors transferring from St. Neots Priory Park Ward to Little Paxton Ward would normally have voted in 2011 and the Electoral Commission requirements are for them to continue to be able to vote in that year.

3. LITTLE PAXTON PARISH COUNCIL

- 3.1 As a consequence of this being brought to their attention by the District Council, Little Paxton Parish Council have requested that the election of all parish councillors for the parish be held in 2011 rather than 2012 to coincide with elections in the Little Paxton Ward to enable the cost of the elections to be shared between the District and Parish Council.
- 3.2 Following the election of parish councillors in 2011, they will serve for a term of five years until 2016 and then continue according to the established system of elections every fourth year thereafter.

4. ST IVES TOWN COUNCIL

- 4.1 A similar situation pertains in the South Ward of St Ives Town Council. A reply is awaited from the Town Council as to whether they wish to change the date of the election for that Ward from 2012 to 2011.

5. CONCLUSION

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

RECOMMENDED

to make an Order under the relevant legislation to make provision for the election of all parish councillors for the parish of Little Paxton to be held in 2011 rather than 2012 to coincide with elections in the Little Paxton Ward of the District Council and for councillors elected at the election to serve for five years until 2016 when the normal cycle of elections will resume.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

Local Government Act 1972.

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

Minutes and Report of the meeting of the Council - 5th December 2007.

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