

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Title/Subject Matter: Order under Section 11, Local Government Act 1972

Meeting/Date: Council - 26th February 2014

Executive Portfolio: Strategic Economic Development & Legal –
Councillor T Sanderson

Report by: Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Ward affected: Buckden

Executive Summary:

Under Section 11 of the Local Government Act 1972, the parishes of Buckden and Diddington have formally applied to the District Council for an order grouping the parishes under a common parish council.

Recommendation:

The Council are recommended to make an Order under the Local Government Act 1972 to group the parishes of Buckden and Diddington under the common parish Council of Buckden Parish Council consisting of 15 councillors with effect from 22nd May 2014.

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1. WHAT IS THIS REPORT ABOUT

- 1.1 In accordance with Section 11 of the Local Government Act 1972 the former Chairman and Clerk of Diddington Parish Meeting has requested the District Council to make an order grouping the parish with the neighbouring parish of Buckden under a common parish council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Section 11 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that the parish meeting of a parish may apply to the District Council for an order grouping the parish with a neighbouring parish under a common parish council.
- 2.2 The Chairman and Clerk of Diddington Parish Meeting stepped down from their roles with effect from 31st December 2013 resulting in the dissolution of the parish meeting. Every attempt was made to maintain the meeting but it was eventually deemed not practical to maintain it in its current format as there was no other local interest. As a result an approach was made by the parish of Diddington to Buckden Parish Council to group the parishes and the Parish Council formally resolved to vote in favour of the grouping at their meeting held on 12th November 2013.
- 2.3 Under Section 11 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council may make an order for the grouping of these parishes. Arising from discussion with the parishes and owing to the size of the parish of Diddington, with an electorate of 55, it was deemed not necessary to allow for separate parish council representation on Buckden Parish Council. Therefore the membership of Buckden Parish Council will be maintained at 15 councillors to represent the electorate of Buckden and Diddington.
- 2.4 The next scheduled election of parish councillors in Buckden is 22nd May 2014 and this order will take effect from this date.

3. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 No legal implications arise out of this report.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 No resource implications arise out of this report.

5. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDED DECISIONS

- 5.1 As a result of a request from the parish of Diddington to group with Buckden Parish Council, the Council is recommended to make an Order under the Local Government Act 1972 to group the parishes of Buckden and Diddington under the common parish Council of Buckden Parish Council consisting of 15 councillors with effect from 22nd May 2014.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Correspondence on File F&GP/E/4 held in the Office on the Head of Legal and Democratic Services
Local Government Act 1972

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