

**ITEM NO 8****ITEM NO 8**

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Law and Administration</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>A Welch</b>
<b>Telephone No:</b>	<b>01785 619204</b>
<b>Ward Interest:</b>	<b>Swynnerton and Oulton</b>
<b>Report Track:</b>	<b>Council 20/11/18 (Only)</b>

**COUNCIL****20 NOVEMBER 2018****Community Governance Review: Parish of Swynnerton****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To present the findings of the Community Governance Review of the Parish of Swynnerton for consideration by the Council.

**2 Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the recommendations of the Resources Scrutiny Committee in relation to Swynnerton Community Governance Review be implemented, and an order in accordance with the draft as set out in the [APPENDIX](#) (as circulated with **this agenda**) be made;
- 2.2 That the Head of Law and Administration be authorised to take all required steps to give the recommendations effect.
- 2.3 That an additional polling District (SWH) be created for the Cold Meece Ward of the Parish of Yarnfield and Cold Meece.

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 At its meeting on 24 July 2018, the Council authorised the Resources Scrutiny Committee to conduct a Community Governance Review of the Parish of Swynnerton. The decision followed the receipt of a valid petition of Swynnerton electors, requesting consideration be given to the formation of a separate Yarnfield Parish Council
- 3.2 The Committee has completed the review and has recommended that a new Yarnfield and Cold Meece parish be established comprising the Yarnfield ward of Swynnerton Parish. Swynnerton Parish would continue as a parish comprising the remaining three wards of Trentham, Tittensor and Swynnerton. The full recommendations are set out in the body of the report below.
- 3.3 The Council must decide whether to implement the recommendations.

<b>4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities</b>
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- 4.1 To improve the quality of life of local people by providing a safe, clean, attractive place to live and work and encouraging people to be engaged in developing strong communities to provide health and wellbeing.

<b>5 Report Detail</b>
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- 5.1 Local government electors, and other interested parties in Swynnerton Parish, were invited to take part in a public consultation on the governance arrangements that should exist in the Parish of Swynnerton.
- 5.2 The Resources Scrutiny Committee met on 27 September 2018, to consider what arrangements should be recommended for the parish, having regard to the need to secure that community governance in the area reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area, and is effective and convenient. Existing governance arrangements and all representations made through the public consultation, including the receipt of a petition signed by local residents, were taken into account.
- 5.3 The Committees initial recommendations were published on the Councils website, and reported to all consultees. A second consultation period was then commenced to enable any further comments to be made following publication of the Committees initial recommendations.
- 5.4 The Resources Scrutiny Committee met on 8 November 2018, to take into account the further submissions received. The Committee resolved that:
- (a) a new Parish comprising the Yarnfield Ward of Swynnerton Parish be created;
  - (b) the boundaries of the existing parish of Swynnerton be altered to exclude the Yarnfield Ward;
  - (c) the new Parish be called "Yarnfield and Cold Meece";
  - (d) the new Parish should have a Parish Council;
  - (e) the new Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council should have 7 Parish Councillors;
  - (f) Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish should be divided into two Wards, Yarnfield Ward and Cold Meece Ward;
  - (g) 2 Parish Councillors should represent the Cold Meece Ward and 5 Parish Councillors should represent the Yarnfield Ward;
  - (h) Swynnerton Parish should retain its present name;
  - (i) Swynnerton Parish should have a Parish Council;
  - (j) Swynnerton Parish Council should have 9 Parish Councillors;

- (k) Swynnerton Parish Council should be split into three Wards, Trentham Ward, Tittensor Ward and Swynnerton Ward;
  - (l) 4 Parish Councillors should represent the Trentham Ward, 3 Parish Councillors should represent the Tittensor Ward and 2 Parish Councillors should represent the Swynnerton Ward.
- 5.5 The final review recommendations have been published and are now the subject of this report. Council can now resolve whether they wish to give effect to the review recommendations. Any changes to the recommendation itself would need a re-opening of the review with a further period of consultation.
- 5.6 If approved the recommendations would be brought into effect, by an order made by the Council. The draft order is set out in the [APPENDIX](#). The new Parish would come into existence on 1 April 2019. Elections for councillors would be held on the ordinary day of elections in May 2019.
- 5.7 The Councils decision whether to give the recommendations effect or not must be published, with reasons.
- 5.8 As a consequence of the creation and warding of the new Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council it will be necessary to create a new polling district for the Cold Meece ward. This will allow for the proper conduct of elections to the new Parish Council. The existing polling districts within the Borough ward are SWA to SWG and the new polling district would be labelled SWH.

<b>6</b>	<b>Implications</b>
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6.1	<b>Financial</b>	<p>The cost of conducting the review falls on the Council. Resources of £5000 were allocated from existing revenues to cover administration costs.</p> <p>Any changes affecting election and other running costs of parish councils would need to be raised by precept.</p>
	<b>Legal</b>	As set out in the report
	<b>Human Resources</b>	Nil
	<b>Human Rights Act</b>	Nil
	<b>Data Protection</b>	
	<b>Risk Management</b>	The review must be carried out within 12 months of commencement. Any changes to electoral arrangements should be made in time to be implemented at the 2019 parish elections.

<b>6.2 Community Impact Assessment Recommendations</b>	<p>The Borough Council considers the effect of its actions on all sections of our community and has addressed all of the following Equality Strands in the production of this report, as appropriate:-</p> <p>Age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.</p>
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### Previous Consideration

- 1 Council - 24 July 2018 - Minute No C16/18
- 2 Special Resources Scrutiny Committee - 27 September 2018 - Minute No RSC15/18
- 3 Resources Scrutiny Committee - 8 November 2018 - Minute No RSC17/18

### Background Papers

File available in Democratic Services

[www.staffordbc.gov.uk/community-governance-reviews](http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/community-governance-reviews)