



COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW PUBLIC MEETING

25TH NOVEMBER 2019

Agenda



- Myth busting!
- What is a Community Governance Review?
- Why now?
- What are the goals of the exercise?
- What say do “I” have, and will it make a difference?
- What is being considered?
- What is the potential impact to me?
- What do we need you to do next?

Myth Busting!



- *Myth: “I didn’t agree to become part of Northstowe!”*
 - FACT: Nothing has been agreed, that is the point of this Governance Review
- *Myth: “The Parish Council has already decided to do this!”*
 - FACT: We are governed by this process. In October 2019, LPC were asked and agreed to the process as the timing will be right given the growth in the size of Northstowe by the time the results of the exercise will come into effect. Other than that NO decisions have been made. Our recommendation will be whatever the village tells us it wants.
- *Myth: “This has all been decided at South Cambs already!”*
 - FACT: We’ll let South Cambs say their piece, but this review has been a part of Northstowe growing since the start. Decisions will be made with YOUR input.



What is a Community Governance Review?

- It can be triggered for a wide variety of reasons where Parish boundaries need to be re-considered
- Often triggered by a new development changing the shape/size of a Parish – several have happened around South Cambs due to the development in the area
- It has always been part of the growth of Northstowe - this is not an unexpected event
- Goal is to re-consider and align Parish boundaries to better reflect the individuality of the changing communities
- In this case the trigger is growth of Northstowe and its position to be able to operate and manage its own affairs

Why Now?



- The process will take a minimum of 1 year before changes are made
- Northstowe is growing sufficiently, that in 1 year it will have enough residents to form its own Council
- A Council must operate within a defined area, of which all must be continuous space
- Northstowe exists as a “mark on a map” – although we all see it being built, it is still not properly defined
- It needs to be defined clearly for any change in Council setup to take effect
- Northstowe will ultimately need a Town Council, so this is the path towards the correct governance body for the Northstowe development



What are the goals of the review?

- We will let South Cambs District Council explain their view in a minute
- LONGSTANTON VIEW:
 - Give input to SCDC to help define the boundary of the Parish
 - Review the likely impact to the Parish on any changes to the boundary
 - Decide whether we want to be part of a wider authority (join with Northstowe and potentially Oakington and Westwick) to become one unit of governance OR decide we want to remain as an independent village with the advantages of being close to a new town
 - Give input to SCDC on that decision and how we would like to operate in future

Tonight's goals...



The goal of tonight is to discuss, ask questions, and help you understand what might happen and what might be the consequences for our village.

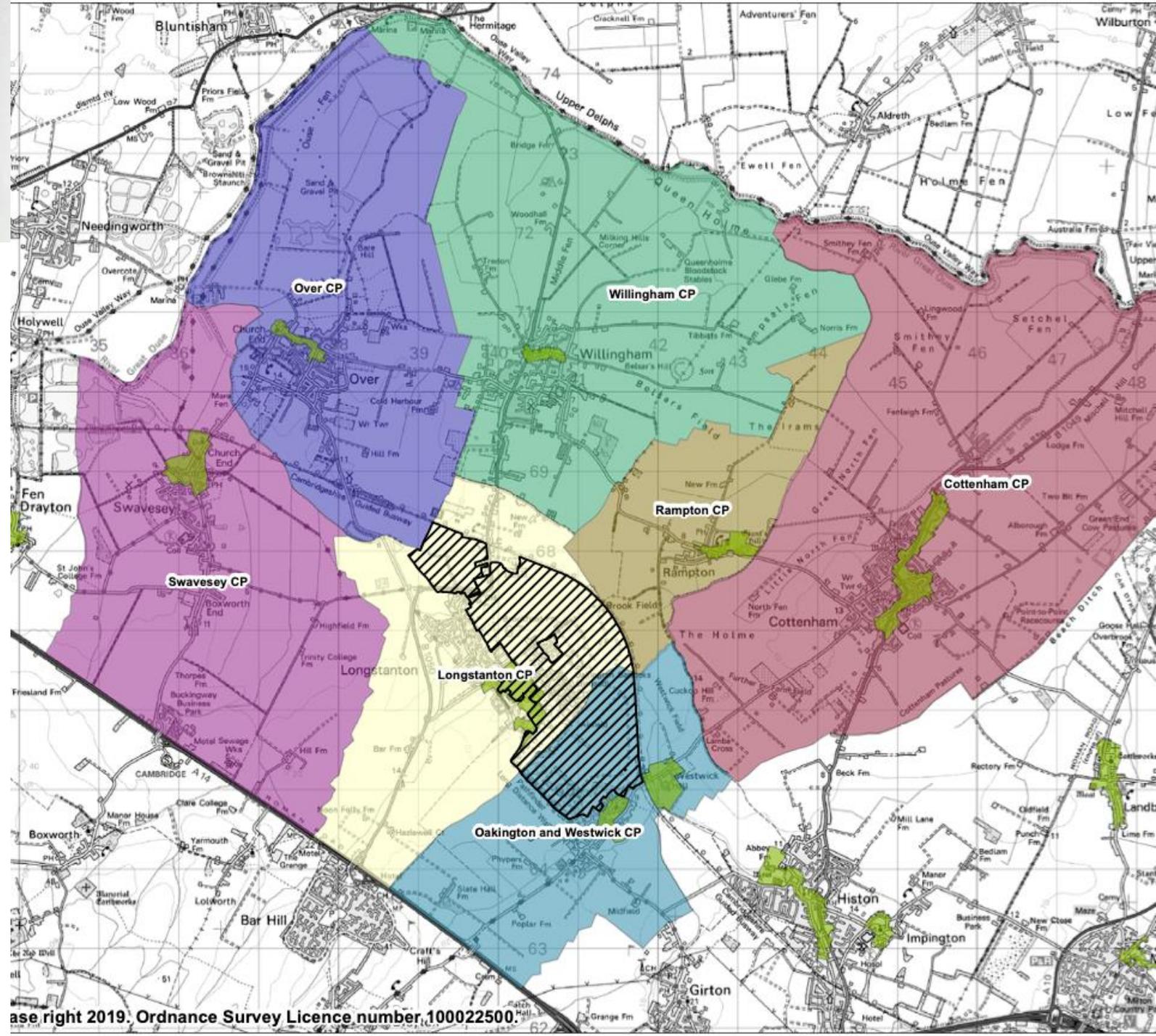
What say do “I” have, and will it make a difference?



- Plenty! You have all the parties here tonight to discuss, ask questions of and give your feedback to
- LPC will be gathering summary feedback tonight to present formally to SCDC in the next week or so
- LPC will share that feedback with the village so it knows what the combined view of all attendees was
- PLEASE attend one of the public forums held by SCDC after this!
- It is **essential** you give your feedback directly to SCDC – paper forms available here tonight, at an SCDC forum, or online at: tiny.cc/LPCCGR
- All feedback is considered as part of the consultation – your opinion counts (but it must be submitted on the official SCDC Submission Form)

The Affected Parishes

- Primary impact of any changes will be on
 - Longstanton
 - Oakington and Westwick
 - Willingham



Useful Notes to Consider

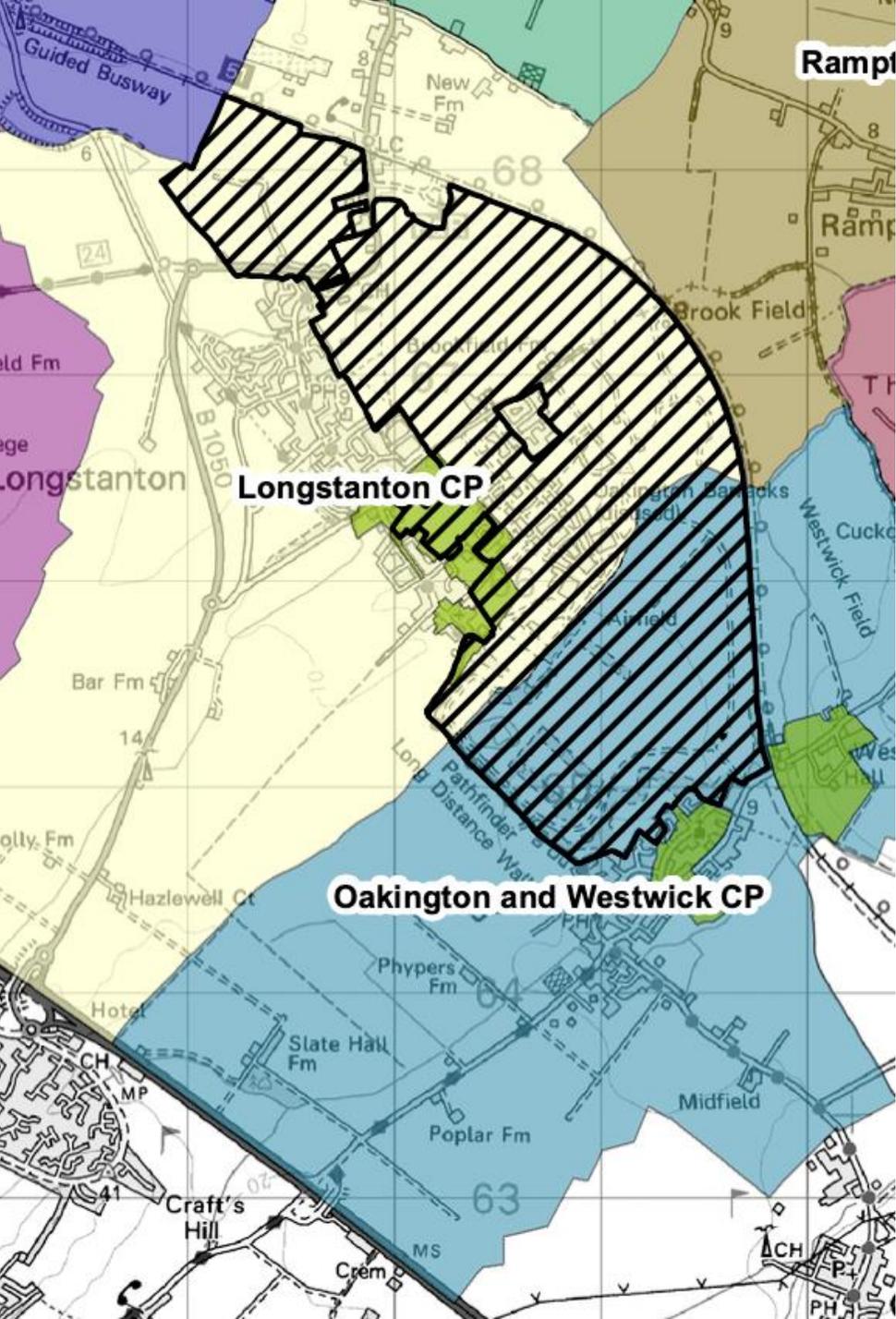


- Any changes in boundary usually follow existing divisions or street features - e.g.
 - Roads (major and minor)
 - Field boundaries
 - Waterways
 - Train lines/busways



What is being considered?

- Under the current suggestion:
 - The shaded area is being considered for formal definition as Northstowe
 - Part of Longstanton will either become part of Northstowe, or will become part of Willingham
 - Much of the land that we expected to be re-classed as Northstowe, will formally become part of it
 - Oakington and Westwick will lose a lot of its land (mostly the old airfield site) to Northstowe
 - Longstanton could lose houses on Station Road as they will be moved into Northstowe or other Parishes





What is the potential impact to me?

- If Longstanton loses houses/residents, the services it provides to the Parish remain the same, as do costs. Income from Council Tax precept goes down, therefore precept may have to increase over time
- If Longstanton (and Oakington and Westwick) were to join with Northstowe, costs would over-time increase as we would be part of a much bigger town, and while we gain houses/income from precept, a town is more expensive than a village, so precept will have to increase over time



Where has this happened before?

- Cambridge
 - Trumpington (1912 onwards) was gradually transferred to be part of Cambridge
 - Cherry Hinton, Chesterton, Newnham...
 - Histon & Impington with Orchard Park
- Milton Keynes
- All the villages that became part of the bigger entity continued to be referred to in the same terms, people still lived in a place (Trumpington, on the outskirts of Cambridge as an example), and all continue to retain their own identity



There are no right or wrong answers or statements – it is your opinion!

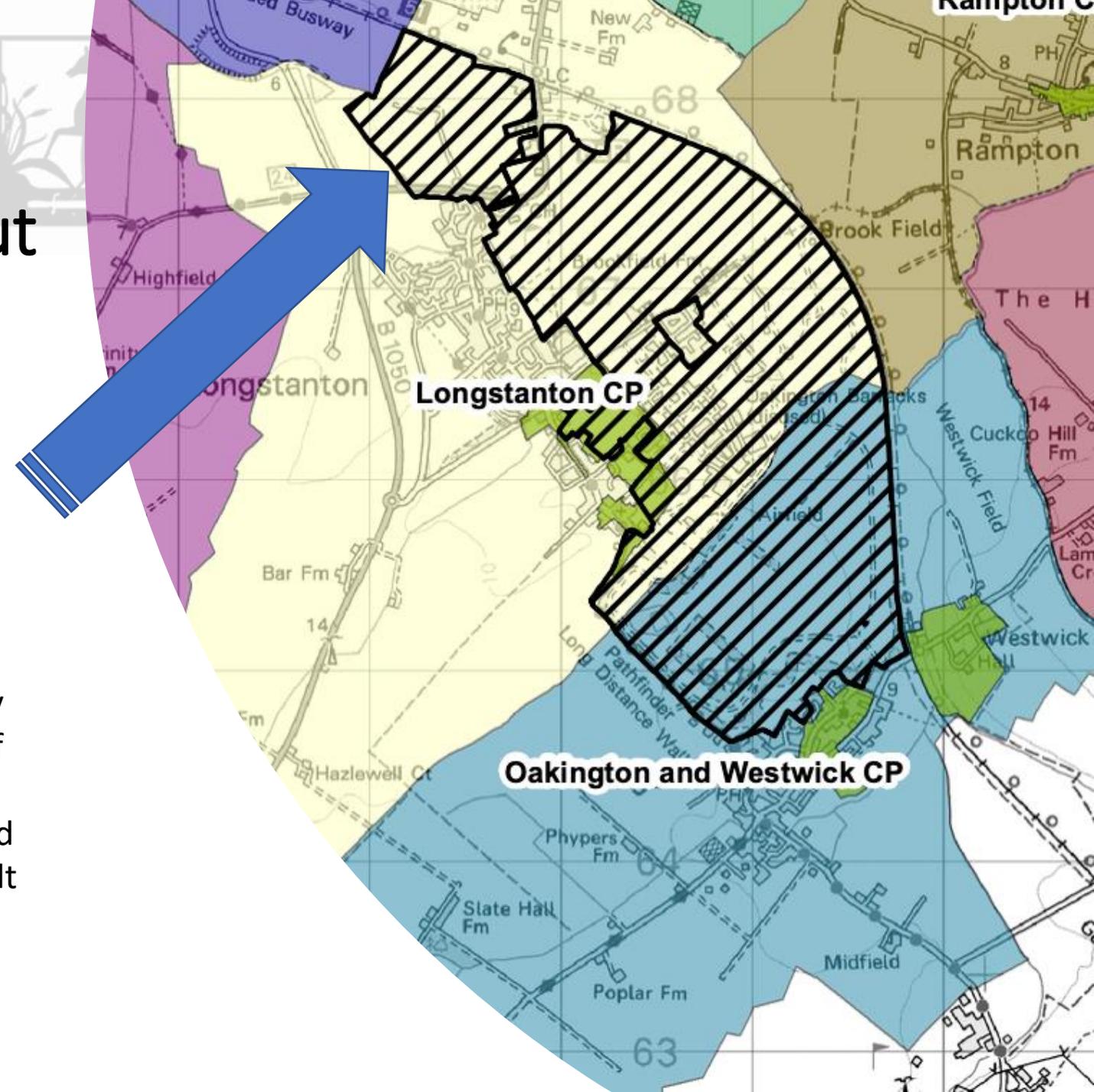
Staying a Village

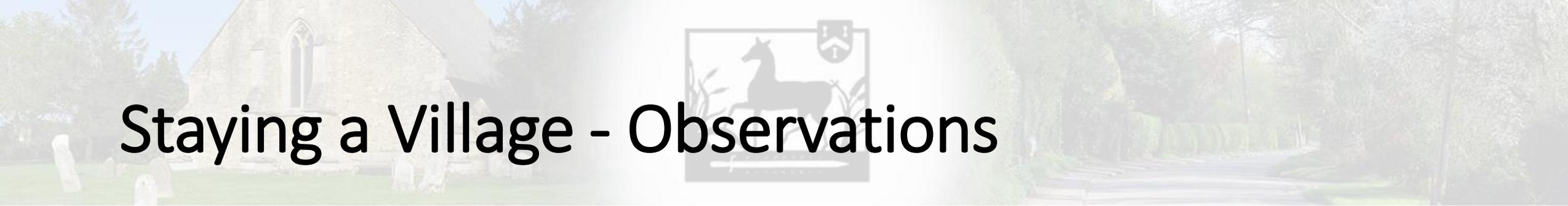


- The review will take all our feedback into consideration
- A revised boundary will be drawn up
- Longstanton will remain a village, albeit a different shape, a smaller parish and with different numbers of houses
- We will remain totally separate to Northstowe
- LPC will continue to run Longstanton as its own Council
- We will review the financial position after the 2021 changes and determine the likely impact to our precept, etc.

Staying a Village – Something to Think About

- The section highlighted is suggested as being part of Northstowe
- The B1050 and Guided Busway provide a sensible boundary and could mean that this section would remain in Longstanton (as it currently is)
- The Northstowe signs on The Green are clearly identifying Northstowe as being on one side of the B1050
- The Bloor development was actually advertised as being part of Longstanton when initially built





Staying a Village - Observations

- Successive plan iterations of the Northstowe Master Plan have further increased scope of land control around Longstanton
- If we stay a village we need to carefully consider the implications of these changes and work with SCDC to agree sensible policy for use of land identified as now being part of the Master Plan



Becoming part of something bigger...

- Longstanton will become a part of the town of Northstowe
- This doesn't mean the village name would change!
- We could gain economies of scale on some of our services in the future
- If warded, we could have a direct presence on the governance function of the town that is forming on the edge of our village
- The town council would continue to help support the growth and development of both Longstanton and Northstowe (and Oakington and Westwick)



What do we need you to do next?

- Engage with the officials present (SCDC, your District Councillors and members of LPC) and discuss
- Share your views, ask questions
- Look around the room – you will see large sheets of paper with key topics on the heading which we would like your view on.
- On the way out – “Anything Else” – put anything down you want LPC to know about and to include in the feedback to SCDC from the Parish on it!
- Tonight isn’t the end of the discussion – email or phone any further questions or ideas – LPC and SCDC want to hear your input
- **PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE** complete the official SCDC documents – available here tonight. Send back to SCDC directly, or drop here at Parish Office by Friday 10th January 2020

Deadline for Submissions



Reminder that deadline for online submissions is:

15th January 2020



Its your community,
its your decision

Longstanton Parish Council