**Test Valley Borough Council Community Governance Review – Final Recommendations**

**Summary of Responses and Final Recommendations**

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| Parish (s) | Romsey Town Council (Romsey Extra, Awbridge). | | |
| LGBCE Implications | | |  |
| Agreed Draft Recommendation | | 1. That the area of land shown coloured blue on Map B be transferred to Awbridge Parish Council from Romsey Extra Parish Council.  2. That with the exception of the area of land shown coloured blue on Map B, the whole of Romsey Extra Parish be transferred to Romsey Town Council from Romsey Extra Parish Council.  3. That Romsey Extra Parish Council be abolished.  4. That Romsey Town be warded in four wards, and the number of councillors to be elected for each ward, be as follows:-   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Ward Name | Extent | Number of Councillors | | Abbey | The same boundaries as Romsey Abbey Borough Ward | 4 | | Cupernham | The same boundaries as Romsey Cupernham Borough Ward | 6 | | Tadburn | The same boundaries as Romsey Tadburn Borough Ward | 4 | | Romsey Extra | The remainder of Romsey Town | 1 |     5. That the year in which ordinary elections of councillors are to be held for Romsey Town Council be 2023 and every fourth year thereafter. | |
| Respondent  [“S” indicates also responded to first consultation] | | **Support Draft Recommendation**  ID1 (S), ID2, ID3, ID4, ID5, ID6, ID7 (S), ID8 (S), ID10, ID11 (S) ID12,  ID13  **Against Draft Recommendation**  ID9 | |

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| Summary of Representations (Second Consultation Stage) | **Support Draft Recommendation:-**  **ID1** (Romsey Town resident) – **Supports** the Draft Recommendation in that the area of land shown coloured blue on the map be transferred to Awbridge Parish Council from Romsey Extra Parish Council and with the exception of that land the whole of Romsey Extra Parish be transferred to Romsey Town Council. He also supports the recommendation that Romsey Extra Parish is abolished and that Romsey Town be warded in four wards, the elections of Councillors to be held in 2023 and then every four years and that the consent of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England be sought to the proposed changes where this is required.  **ID2** (Romsey Town resident) – **Supports** the recommendation of the member panel for option 2A to merge Romsey Town and Romsey Extra Parish (excluding the part recommended to be transferred to Awbridge)  **ID3** (Romsey Extra resident – Stanbridge Earls) – Fully **supports** the proposal. It has always seemed to be illogical for Stanbridge Earls to be outside the Awbridge boundary. It is closely connected to the Awbridge settlement and disconnected from Romsey Town.  **ID4 Councillor Adams King** - would **recommend** that the boundary of the area proposed to transfer to Awbridge be extended to include those properties on the south side of the road, their inhabitants being part of the community that in any event considers itself part of Awbridge.  **ID5** - (Romsey Extra resident) - in **support** of the Draft recommendations to extend the area of Romsey Town Council and to abolish Romsey Extra Parish Council.  **ID6** - **Chair of Romsey and District u3a** - would like it to be known that the Trustees of Romsey & District u3a **support** the proposals.  **ID7 - Awbridge Parish Council** - **Broadly supportive** of the review proposals. Further to its response submitted on 27 January 2022, proposes the new Awbridge Parish Boundary should be behind the properties situated on the south side of Old Salisbury Lane and not the lane itself, bringing these properties within Awbridge parish. The expanded Awbridge parish should not be warded, and there should be no addition to the number of councillors, which currently stands at seven. Any assets of Romsey Extra PC should be apportioned to the remaining councils based upon populations.  **ID8 - Wellow Parish Council** – **In agreement** with the Member Panel’s recommended option 2A to merge Romsey Town and Romsey Extra Parish (excluding the part recommended to be transferred to Awbridge)  **ID10**  (Romsey Town resident) – **Supports** option 2A.  **ID11 - Romsey Extra Parish Council** - is disappointed that the objective of parish/borough co-terminosity cannot be achieved across all of the area in question. However, given the constraints, REPC believes the draft recommendations to be the best compromise and, therefore, gives these proposals its **full support.**  **ID12** (Romsey Town resident) **– Supports** proposed merger**.**  **ID13** (Romsey Town resident) – Confirms wholehearted **support** for the proposal.  **Against Draft Recommendation:-**  **ID9 - Romsey Labour Party** – **Does not support** option 2A as believe merging the two parishes would create an unwieldy area. Supports proposal that those parts of Romsey Extra not merged with Romsey Town be transferred to adjoining parishes, split along Borough wards. |
| Additional consultation with identified properties to the south of Old Salisbury Lane | **Supports Final Recommendation**  **ID14 –** No objections to the proposal that our property (xx Old Salisbury Lane) is now moved into the parish of Awbridge.  **ID15 –** Have lived in this location for more than 8 years and have strong connections with the Awbridge community specifically via school and church links. |
| Members Group Observations | The Members Group noted that of the thirteen representations received in the Second Consultation, only one (ID9 Romsey Labour Party) did not support the Draft Recommendations. That representation had supported the merger of most of Romsey Extra with Romsey Town, with the remainder being transferred to the adjoining parishes (Wellow, Awbridge and Nursling and Rownhams). The Members Group recalled the opposition to such a proposal which the parish councils for those parishes had expressed in the First Consultation, and noted the clear level of support for the Draft Recommendations. Accordingly, (subject to a change concerning the properties in Old Salisbury Lane) it concluded that the Draft Recommendations should be carried forward as Final Recommendations.  The Group agreed that it would be logical to consider transferring properties to the south of Old Salisbury Lane to Awbridge [as shown on Map D] and instructed officers to write to the properties affected to seek the residents’ views to such a change. Subject to no opposition being expressed [which was the case, the outcome being two letters supporting the revised proposal], the Group concluded that the proposed Final Recommendations should also include the transfer of these properties to Awbridge Parish. |
| Electoral Arrangement Issues | See Annex 3. |
| **Proposed Final Recommendations** | **1. That the area of land shown coloured blue on Map D (including the 12 additional properties shown to the south of Old Salisbury Lane) be transferred to Awbridge Parish Council from Romsey Extra Parish Council.**  **2. That with the exception of the area of land shown coloured blue on Map B, the whole of Romsey Extra Parish be transferred to Romsey Town Council from Romsey Extra Parish Council.**  **3. That Romsey Extra Parish Council be abolished.**  **4. That Romsey Town be warded in four wards, and the number of councillors to be elected for each ward, be as follows:-**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Ward Name** | **Extent** | **Number of Councillors** | | **Abbey** | **The same boundaries as Romsey Abbey Borough Ward** | **4** | | **Cupernham** | **The same boundaries as Romsey Cupernham Borough Ward** | **6** | | **Tadburn** | **The same boundaries as Romsey Tadburn Borough Ward** | **4** | | **Romsey Extra** | **The remainder of Romsey Town** | **1** |     **5. That the year in which ordinary elections of councillors are to be held for Romsey Town Council be 2023 and every fourth year thereafter.** |