

ST EDMUNDSBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLICATION OF FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE
COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW 2015/16

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

As part of the current Community Governance Review (CGR) of parishes within St Edmundsbury Borough, under the terms of reference published in August 2015 (and re-published in January 2016), St Edmundsbury Borough Council has made the following final recommendations for consultation. Recommendations in Part A apply to all issues and parishes in the review. Recommendations in Part B refer to specific issues and parishes only.

Before making its final decision on the CGR the Borough Council will consider evidence received through consultation on this second phase of the review, and the recommendations below may be changed in the light of this evidence. A final decision on the review will be taken in the summer of 2016.

All residents and any other persons or organisations wishing to make representations on the final recommendations may do so by either:

1. **All Issues:** Responding in writing to:
Service Manager (Democratic Services and Elections)
Postal Address: West Suffolk House, Western Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3YU
Email: (cgr@westsuffolk.gov.uk)
Phone: Elections helpline 01284 757131;
2. **Issues 1-7, 12-14, 21 and 24-25:** Completing an online response form on the Council's website at <http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/CGR>; or
3. **All Issues:** Submitting local petitions or surveys to the Council.

The deadline for receipt of comments is **27 April 2016**.

Date of Publication: 15 February, 2016.

A. General recommendations required by legislation

1. That no existing parish be abolished as part of the review.
2. That there be no change to the existing name of any parish.
3. That there be no change to the current arrangements which determine whether an existing parish has a council or not i.e:
 - (a) If it currently has a parish meeting it will continue to do so;
 - (b) If it currently has a parish council it will continue to do so.

B. Specific recommendations in relation to parish area or electoral arrangements

The numbering below relates to the published terms of reference to provide continuity with the first phase of the review. Issue 26 is shown first as it affects all parishes. If a parish is not listed below, it is not directly affected by the Community Governance Review and its existing area and electoral arrangements will remain unchanged.

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No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
26	The whole Borough (consequential impact of CGR)	•All	Consequential impacts and changes to Parish and Borough Council wards and County Council divisions representing the Borough associated with any proposed changes to parish boundaries or wards arising from the CGR. Changes may be in the form of ward/division boundaries and numbers of councillors.

Final Recommendation for Consultation

More information is provided on these recommendations in the report considered by the Borough Council on 15 December 2015
(<https://democracy.westsuffolk.gov.uk/documents/s10829/COU.SE.15.036%20Appendix%20C%20Referral%20from%20DRWP%20-%20consequential%20changes.pdf>)

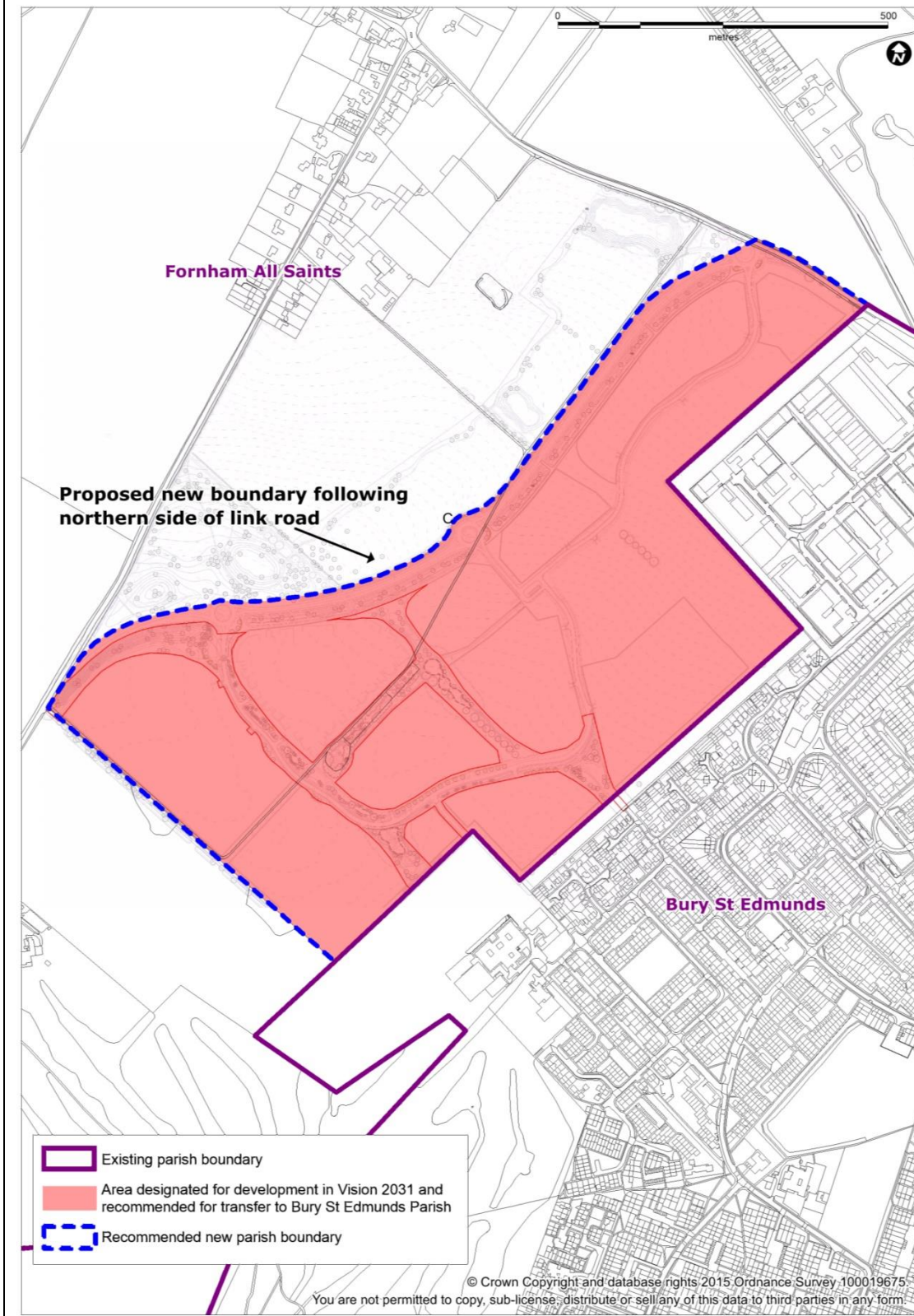
It is recommended that:

- (a) the Council requests a full electoral review of the electoral arrangements for St Edmundsbury Borough Council by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (*request submitted January 2016*).
- (b) subject to the outcome of issue 7, the ward boundaries (and number of councillors) of Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill Town Councils be left unchanged within their current boundaries as part of this CGR, pending any electoral review of the Borough Council;
- (c) if the CGR results in the extension of either of the towns' boundaries then the new area(s) be added, on an interim basis, to an existing adjacent town council ward, with no increase in the number of town councillors. This will result in a temporary electoral imbalance, but this imbalance can also be corrected by the subsequent electoral review before any scheduled elections;
- (d) changes to ward boundaries and other electoral arrangements for any other parishes (existing or new) arising from this CGR may be subject to later change by the LGBCE if they need to ensure electoral equality for, and coterminosity with, their own scheme for borough wards or county divisions.

Important note: the Borough Council would, as a fall-back, seek the appropriate consequential changes to existing borough wards and county divisions if, for any reason, the LGBCE could not carry out full electoral reviews before 2019 or 2021 respectively. This would keep electoral arrangements across all three tiers in step.

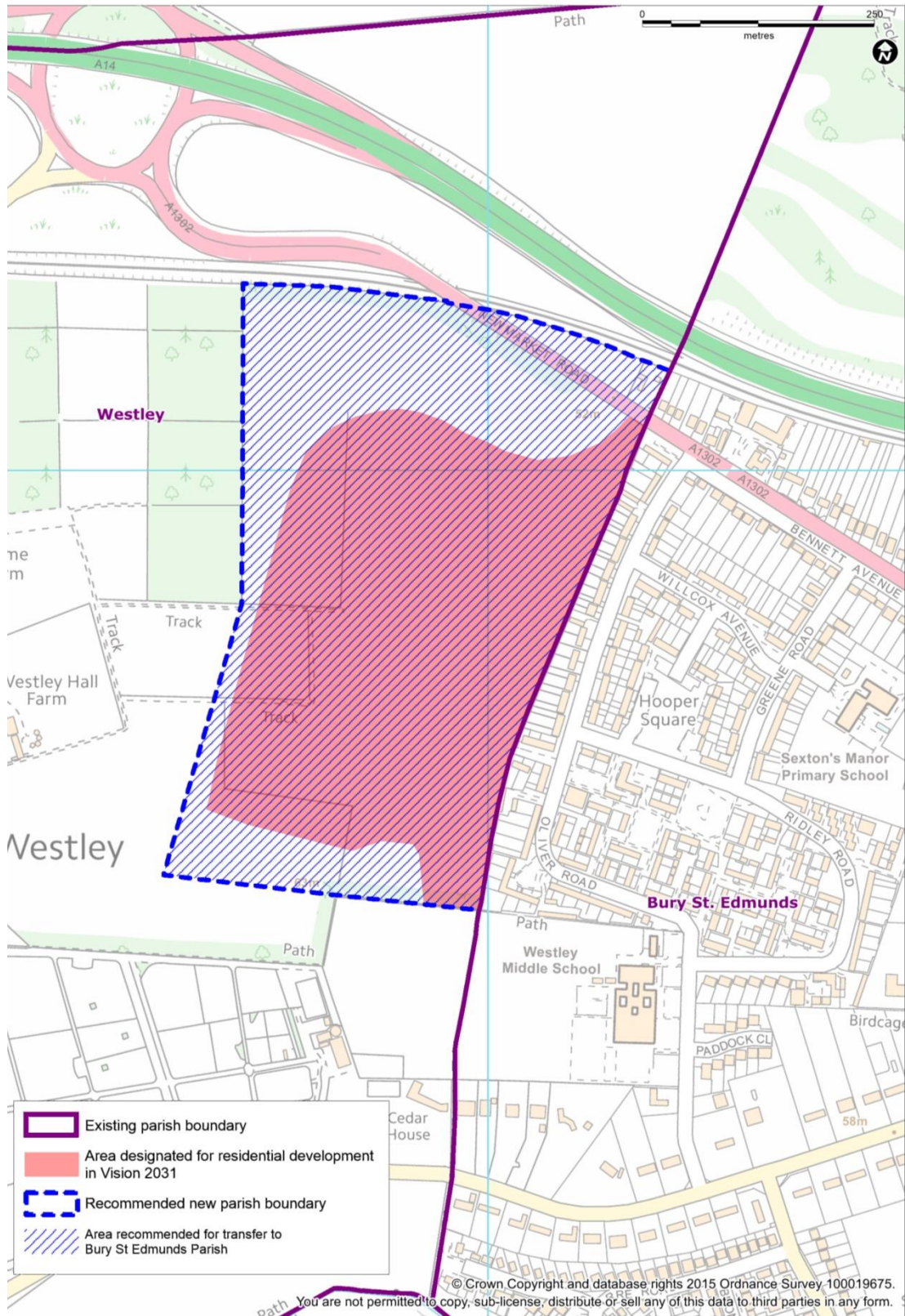
No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
1	Vision 2031 Strategic Site "North-West Bury St Edmunds"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Fornham All Saints 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.
Final Recommendation The boundary of Bury St Edmunds Parish be extended to include the residential element of the "North-West Bury St Edmunds" Vision 2031 growth site, as shown on consultation map A. <p>The new boundary (in part) would follow the north side of the new relief road. The recommended new boundary is shown on consultation map A (with road and landscaping detail from a recent planning application super-imposed).</p> <p>In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26, the transferred parish area will be temporarily added to the existing St Olaves Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (<i>the principle of the proposal was supported by all respondents including the Parish Council</i>); and 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents (current and future) and offers them more effective and convenient local government (<i>respondents in phase 1 felt that the new electors would have more in common with existing electors of Bury St Edmunds and the identity and cohesion of the existing Fornham All Saints Parish should be preserved</i>). <p><u>Electorate Information:</u> For reference purposes, the latest total projected electorate change relating to the new homes in the Vision 2031 growth site (i.e. when fully developed) is 1435. Although hard to predict ahead of development starting, it is possible that over 600 electors could be living in the new homes by December 2020. As a baseline, the December 2015 electorates of Fornham All Saints Parish and Bury St Edmunds Parish were 584 and 28,953 respectively.</p>			

Consultation Map A – Issue 1



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
2	<p>Vision 2031 Strategic Site "West Bury St Edmunds"</p> <p>This issue should also be read in conjunction with issue 11.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Westley 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.
Final Recommendation			
<p>The boundary of Bury St Edmunds Parish be extended to include the residential element of the "West Bury St Edmunds" Vision 2031 growth site, as shown on consultation map B.</p> <p>The proposed new boundary, which is shown on consultation map B, reflects the concept statement for the growth site in Vision 2031 and, in part, existing field lines and the strong natural boundary of the railway. The proposal also deals with issue 11 (136 Newmarket Road).</p> <p>As only a concept statement exists at this point, any new boundary may need to be reviewed in a future CGR when the precise detail of any development is known (e.g the line of a relief road). In addition, if and when any proposal for a sub-regional health campus emerges, this could also be the subject of a separate CGR if needed. However, as there is currently no detail on the likelihood of such a scheme, it would be premature to include it in this CGR.</p> <p>In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26 above, the transferred parish area will be temporarily added to the existing Minden Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (<i>the principle of the proposal was supported by Bury St Edmunds Town Council and no response was received in phase 1 from Westley Parish Council</i>); 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents (current and future) and offers them more effective and convenient local government (<i>respondents in phase 1 felt that the new electors would have more in common with existing electors of Bury St Edmunds and the identity and cohesion of the existing Westley Parish should be preserved</i>). <p><u>Electorate Information:</u> For reference purposes, the latest total projected electorate change relating to the new homes in the Vision 2031 growth site (i.e. when fully developed) is 680. It is not currently known if any development will start before December 2020. As a baseline, the December 2015 electorates of Westley Parish and Bury St Edmunds Parish were 162 and 28,953 respectively.</p>			

Consultation map B – Issues 2 and 11



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
3	Vision 2031 Strategic Site "North-East Bury St Edmunds"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Great Barton 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.
Final Recommendation The "North-East Bury St Edmunds" Vision 2031 growth site be retained in Great Barton Parish within a newly created parish ward. The electoral arrangements of the Parish would be changed as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the growth site would be represented by 2 parish councillors elected to a "South" parish ward with a boundary as shown on consultation map C; and the remaining electors in the Parish would be represented by 9 councillors elected to a "North" parish ward. <p>The proposed new boundary for consultation, which is shown on consultation map C, reflects the masterplan for the growth site in Vision 2031 as well as existing field lines and strong natural boundaries provided by the existing roads and the railway. Electoral arrangements proposed reflect a five year electorate forecast below.</p> <p>This recommendation does not increase the overall number of parish councillors for Great Barton from 11. However, if it is adopted, further CGRs may be required between future parish council elections to ensure continued electoral equality between the two parish wards as the new development grows.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> local preference (<i>while there were alternative proposals and views, this option was supported by Great Barton Parish (council and electors) in phase 1. Local electors in Cattishall also felt strongly that that their homes were part of Great Barton Parish</i>); it potentially provides parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents (current and future) and offers them more effective and convenient local government (<i>Great Barton felt that being an integrated part of their Parish would allow the new community to develop with strong and focused democratic representation and reflect shared interests and needs with the rest of the Parish (which already has several distinct but strongly connected communities i.e. village, Cattishall and East Barton). The Parish Council also felt that this option would provide the new residents the chance to develop their own community identity and local services while development is taking place, and then decide their own future at a later CGR after building is complete</i>); and it reflects, in community identity terms, the barrier created by the railway. 			

Five Year Electorate Forecast

The latest estimate of electorate change relating to the "North East Bury St Edmunds" Vision 2031 growth site of 1250 homes is that it will result in 2338 new electors when fully developed.

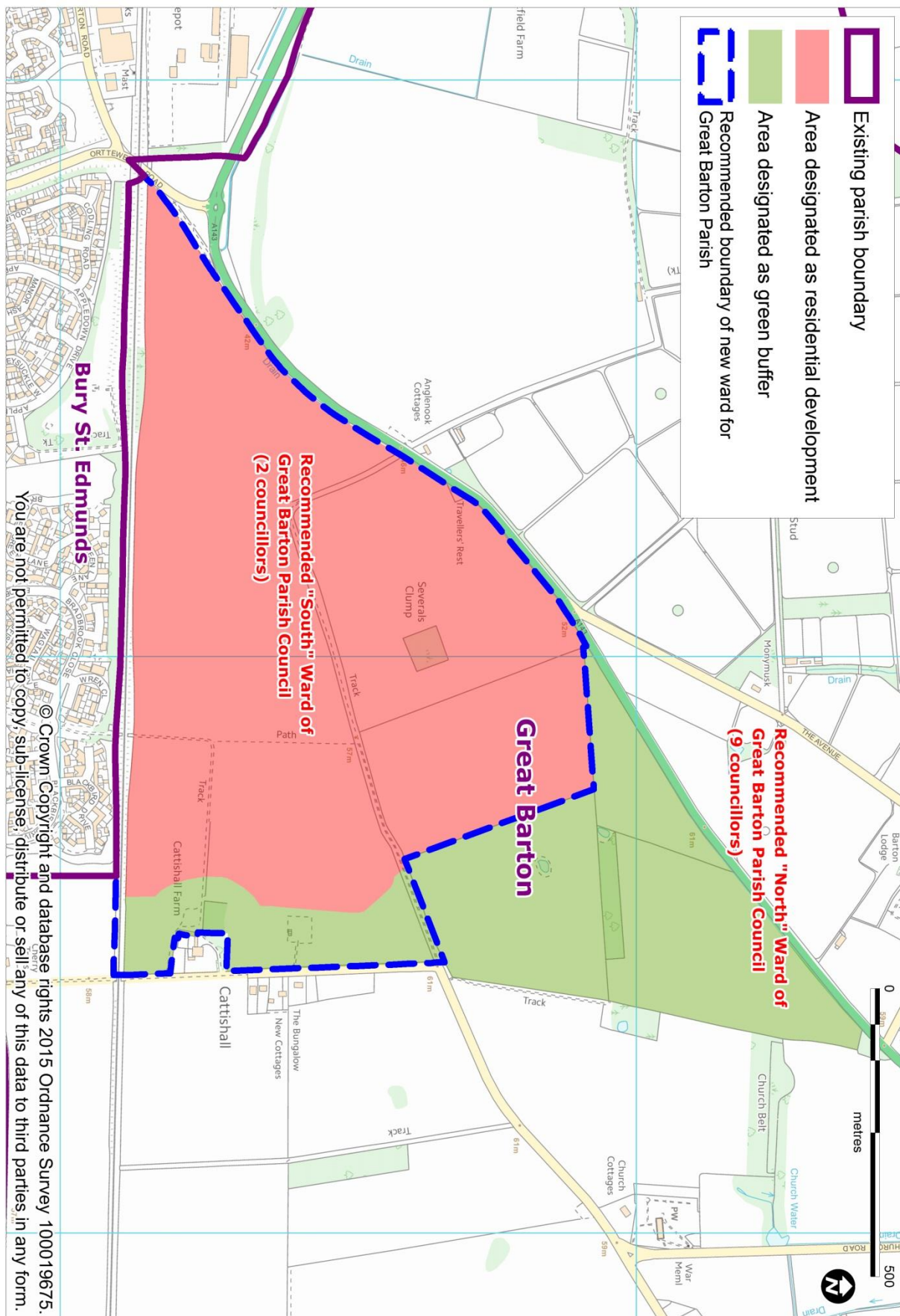
Until development actually starts, it is very hard to make a reliable five year estimate to December 2020. An assumption that no more than 150 homes might be occupied by that point, would result in an electorate of around 280 for the proposed new parish ward by December 2020 (using the current ratio of electors to properties in the Parish). This however is only a guide figure.

Taking the growth site into account, and other known changes (including other Vision 2031 allocations in the Parish and the effect of the recommendation for issue 4), the total electorate of the Parish in December 2020 is forecast to be around 2070. Meaning the following:

Ward	Estimated 2020 electorate	Percentage
North	1790	86.5
South	280	13.5
Total	2070	100.00

On that basis (and assuming no change to the total number of councillors for the Parish, which is also an option), it is recommended for consultation purposes that the South Ward should initially have 2 parish councillors out of the total of 11 (18% of the total councillors, compared to 13.5% of the estimated electorate). With a scheme of 11 councillors, this provides better electoral equality than the alternative, which would be to have one councillor (one councillor is a 49% variance from the average of 188.2 electors per councillor for the Parish, whereas 2 councillors is 26%). It is also understood that there would need to be another CGR between the 2019 and 2023 parish elections to reflect a more accurate five year estimate at that point.

Consultation map C – Issue 3



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
4	Vision 2031 Strategic Site "Moreton Hall" This issue should be read in conjunction with issues 6, 7 and 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Great Barton •Rushbrooke with Rougham 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.
Final Recommendation			
<p>(1) The areas of Bury St Edmunds, Great Barton and Rushbrooke with Rougham Parishes be amended as shown on consultation map D.</p> <p>(2) The electoral arrangements of Rushbrooke with Rougham Parish be amended as follows:</p> <p>(a) the "Moreton Hall" Vision 2031 growth site (and other existing properties) be represented by 2 parish councillors elected to a "North" parish ward, with a boundary shown on consultation map D; and</p> <p>(b) the remaining electors in the Parish be represented by 9 councillors elected to a "South" parish ward.</p> <p>The proposed new external parish boundaries for consultation, which are shown on the map overleaf, reflect a recent planning consent for the growth site as well as the strong natural boundaries provided by the existing roads (including Lady Miriam Way) and the railway.</p> <p>This recommendation does not increase the overall number of parish councillors for Rushbrooke with Rougham from 11. However, if it is adopted, further CGRs may be required between future parish council elections to ensure continued electoral equality between the two parish wards as the new development grows, reflecting the latest electorate forecasts.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (<i>while there were alternative proposals and views, this option was supported by both Great Barton and Rushbrooke with Rougham Parishes (councils and electors) and by many stakeholders (including the Rougham Tower Association and the new Academy in phase 1. Both rural parishes also wished to see a change in their common boundary);</i> 2. it potentially provides parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents (current and future) and offers them more effective and convenient local government (<i>respondents supporting the option in phase 1 felt that: the identity and history of Rushbrooke with Rougham (particularly its airfield) could be lost if there is any further movement of the boundary with Bury St Edmunds; and creating a new parish ward would allow the new community to develop with a distinct local identity, appropriate local services and strong and focused democratic representation, as well as being an integrated part of the existing parish (which already has several distinct communities); and</i> 			

3. it reflects, in community identity terms, the barrier created by the railway.

Five Year Electorate Forecast

The latest estimate of electorate change relating to the "Moreton Hall" Vision 2031 growth site of 500 homes is that it will result in 885 new electors when fully developed.

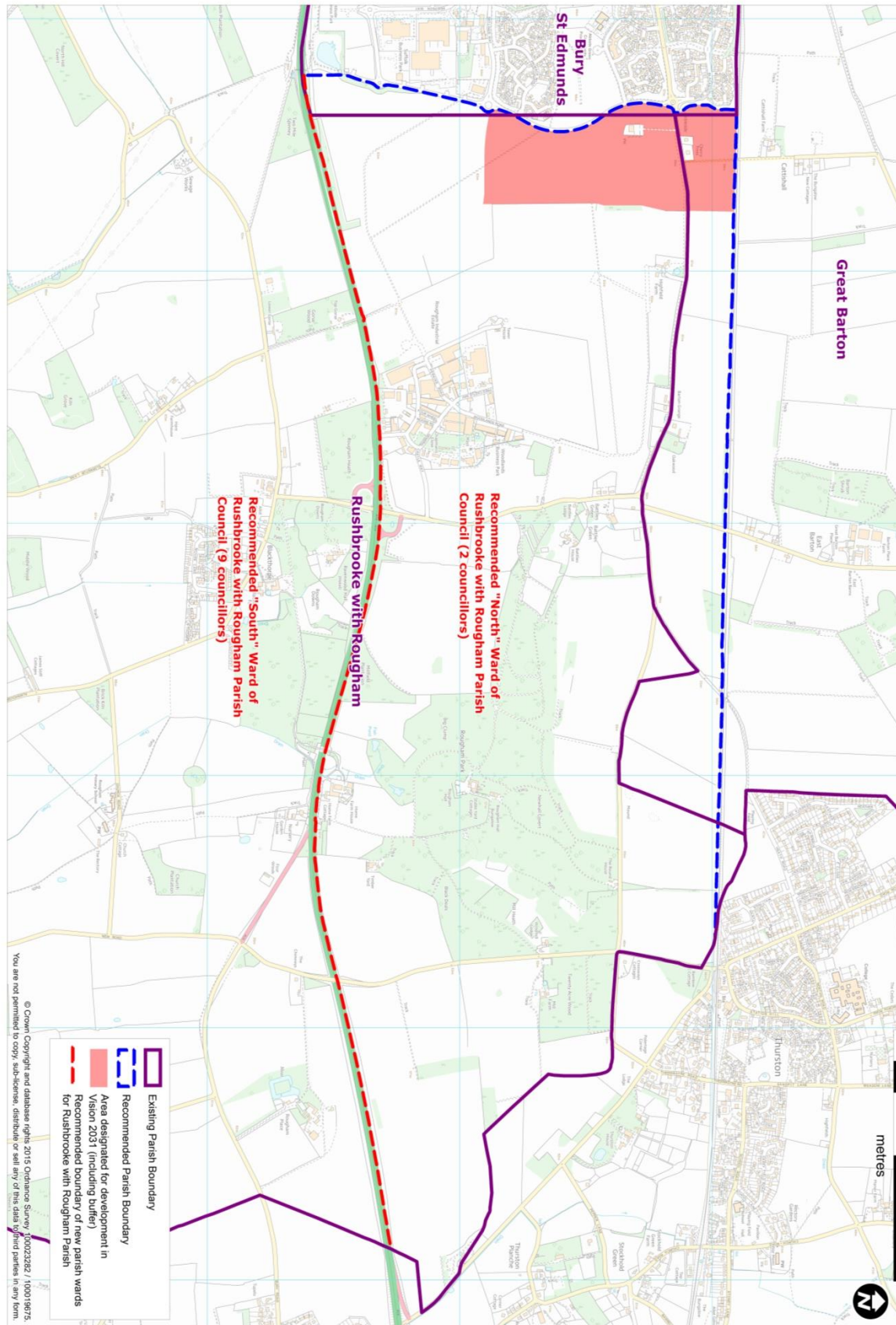
Until development actually starts, it is very hard to make a reliable five year estimate to December 2020. An assumption that around 100 homes might be occupied by that point would suggest an electorate of around 240 for the proposed new parish ward by December 2020 (using the current ratio of electors to properties in the Parish, and adjusting for existing electors and Issues 3 and 8). This however is only a guide figure.

Taking the growth site into account, and other known changes (including other Vision 2031 allocations in the Parish and the effect of other CGR recommendations), the total electorate of the Parish in December 2020 is forecast to be around 1110. Meaning the following:

Ward	Estimated 2020 electorate	Percentage of Parish
North	240	21.6
South	870	78.4
Total	1110	100.00

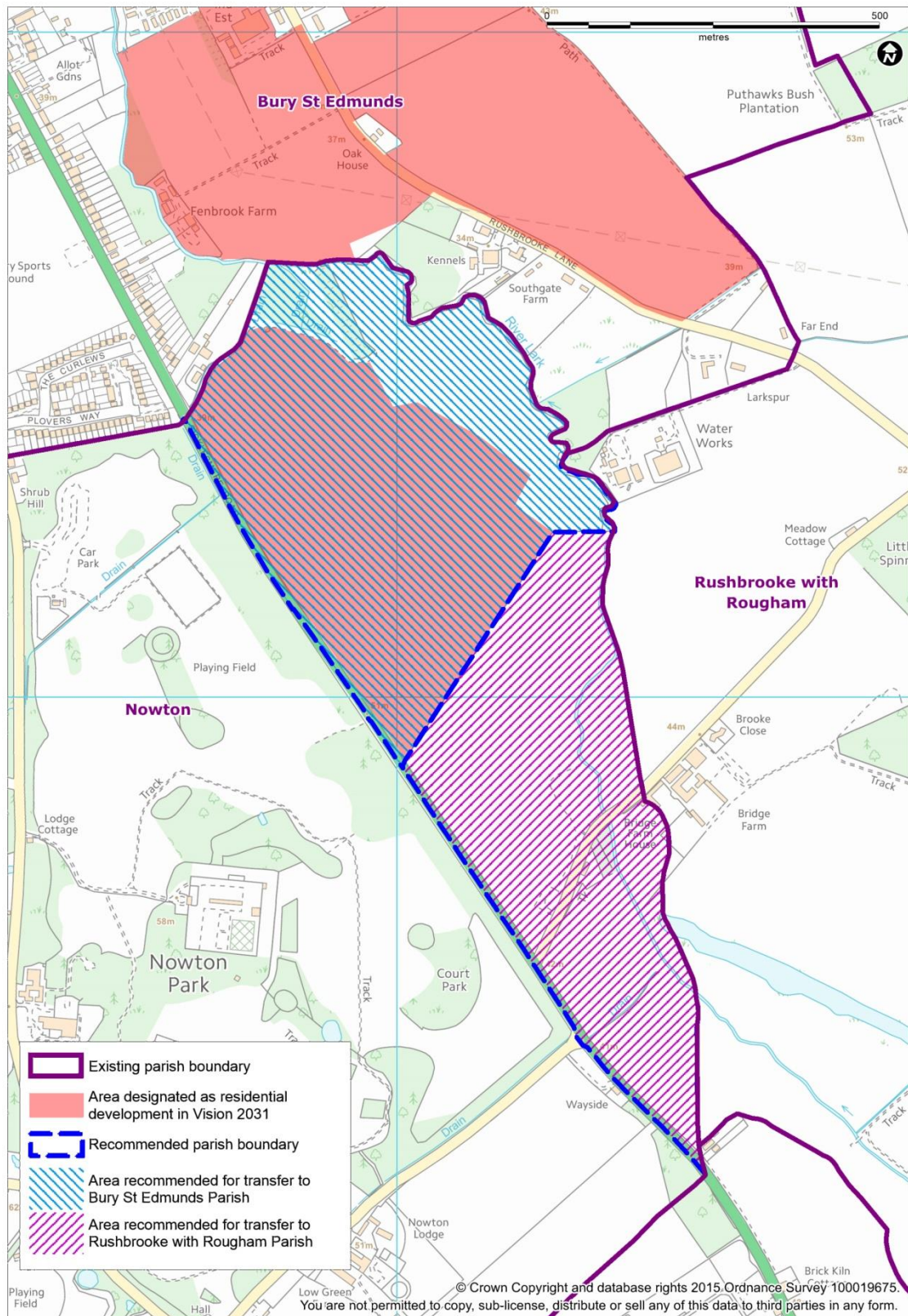
On that basis (and assuming no change to the total number of councillors for the Parish, which is also an option), it is recommended for consultation purposes that the North Ward should initially have 2 parish councillors out of the total of 11 (18% of the total councillors, compared to 22% of the estimated electorate). With a scheme of 11 councillors, this provides marginally better electoral equality than the alternative, which would be to have 3 councillors (3 councillors is a 20.7% variance from the average of 100.9 electors per councillor for the Parish, whereas 2 councillors is 18.9%). It is also understood that there would need to be another CGR between the 2019 and 2023 parish elections to reflect a more accurate five year estimate at that point.

Consultation map D – Issues 4, 6, 7 and 8



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
5	Vision 2031 Strategic Site "South-East Bury St Edmunds"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Nowton •Rushbrooke with Rougham 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.
Final Recommendation			
<p>(1) The boundary of Bury St Edmunds Parish be extended to include the whole of the "South-East Bury St Edmunds" Vision 2031 growth site, as shown on consultation map E.</p> <p>(2) The boundary of Nowton and Rushbrooke with Rougham Parishes be amended so that it reflects the A134 and transfers Willow House, and adjacent land, from Nowton to Rushbrooke with Rougham, as shown on the map overleaf.</p> <p>The recommended new boundaries are shown on consultation map E and reflect the Vision 2031 growth site and existing ground features such as roads and field lines.</p> <p>In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26, the transferred parish area of Bury St Edmunds will be temporarily added to the existing Southgate Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference <i>(the principle of the proposal was supported by all respondents including the Parish Councils in phase 1); and</i> 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents (current and future) and offers them more effective and convenient local government <i>(respondents in phase 1 felt that the new electors would have more in common with existing electors of Bury St Edmunds and the identity and cohesion of the existing Nowton Parish should be preserved. Similarly, the electors at Willow House more strongly identify with Rushbrooke with Rougham).</i> <p><u>Electorate Information:</u> For reference purposes, the total projected electorate change relating to the new homes in the Vision 2031 growth site (i.e. when fully developed) is 1888. Although hard to predict ahead of development starting, it is possible that around 300 electors could be living in the new homes by December 2020. As a baseline, the December 2015 electorates of the affected parishes were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nowton Parish: 140 • Rushbrooke with Rougham Parish: 912 • Bury St Edmunds Parish: 28,953. 			

Consultation map – Issue 5



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
6	<p>Vision 2031 Strategic Site "Suffolk Business Park"</p> <p>This issue should be read in conjunction with issues 4, 7 and 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Rushbrooke with Rougham 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.

Final Recommendation

- (1) The "Suffolk Business Park" Vision 2031 growth site be retained in Rushbrooke with Rougham Parish; and**
- (2) The boundary of Bury St Edmunds and Rushbrooke with Rougham Parishes be amended in relation to the business park to follow the southern stretch of Lady Miriam Way.**

Consultation map D illustrates this proposal and is on page 14.

The reasons for the recommendation include:

1. **local preference** (*the principle of the proposal was supported by the Parish and Town Councils in phase 1*);
2. **it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and businesses (current and future) and offers them more effective and convenient local government** (*respondents in phase 1 commented on the need to preserve the community and historic identity of Rushbrooke with Rougham Parish Council*);
- 3. it reflects the strong boundary of Lady Miriam Way.**

No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
7	<p>Moreton Hall area of Bury St Edmunds</p> <p><i>This issue should be read in conjunction with issues 4, 6 and 8</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Great Barton •Rushbrooke with Rougham 	<p>The proposal of Cllr Beckwith to create an entirely new parish of Moreton Hall (by removing these properties from existing parished areas). Since this element of the review will need to link with issues 4, 6 and 8, it will potentially affect Great Barton and/or Rushbrooke with Rougham parishes.</p>

Final Recommendation

That the Moreton Hall area of Bury St Edmunds remains in Bury St Edmunds Parish, and no new parish be created.

The Council noted that the small number of local electors responding to the phase 1 (fact-finding) consultation were split fairly evenly on whether creating a new parish council would be appropriate. On balance, therefore, the Council felt that there was currently insufficient evidence to allow it to recommend to electors that a new parish be created for Moreton Hall and that it should be the status quo position that is tested in the final stage of the review.

However, in consulting on such a final recommendation, the Council has agreed to make it clear to respondents what the alternative option and implications would be, since the Council can change its recommendation in the light of evidence received.

The Borough Council's final recommendation for consultation would see the Moreton Hall area remain within the existing Bury St Edmunds Parish, and continue to be served by the Town Council. The area would continue to have its own ward within the parish, with its own town councillors. More information on the Town Council can be found at: <http://www.burystedmunds-tc.gov.uk/>.

The alternative option, as suggested by Cllr Beckwith, would be to create an entirely new and separate Parish for the Moreton Hall area, served by its own parish council. This would reduce the area of the current Bury St Edmunds Parish, and therefore the proposal affects all electors within Bury St Edmunds (see below).

As Moreton Hall is already in a parish, and is represented by the Town Council, creating a new parish council for the area would not create a new tier of local government.

Powers and functions of Parish and Town Councils

Parish and town councils are statutory bodies and are the first tier of local government in England. They serve electorates ranging from small rural communities, to towns and small cities; all are independently elected and raise a precept – a form of council tax – from the local community.

Their activities fall into three main categories: representing the local community;

delivering services to meet local needs; and striving to improve quality of life and community well being.

Parish and town council have an extensive range of discretionary powers allowing them to provide and maintain a variety of local services including allotments, bridleways, burial grounds, bus shelters, car parks, commons and open spaces, community transport schemes, community safety and crime reduction measures, events and festivals, footpaths, leisure and sports facilities, litter bins, public toilets, street cleaning and lighting, tourism activities, traffic calming measures and youth projects.

Parish and town councils also work with the Borough and County Council, and represent local views through consultation on planning, licensing and highways matters.

The services which Bury St Edmunds Town Council provides on behalf of residents, including those who live at Moreton Hall, are explained on its website: <http://www.burystedmunds-tc.gov.uk/>.

If a new parish council were formed for Moreton Hall, it would appoint a parish clerk and decide which local services it wished to provide, and what parish precept it would levy to fund these services.

Respondents to the consultation will want to consider whether they believe the electors of Moreton Hall would be better served by remaining part of the larger Town Council or by being represented by their own parish council.

Electoral arrangements

If the status quo is maintained, Moreton Hall electors would continue to be represented at parish level by Bury St Edmund town councillors in their own parish ward.

If a new parish council were to be formed it would need its own electoral arrangements at the time of first elections, most likely in 2019. Those who support the creation of a new parish for Moreton Hall will need to provide evidence to the Borough Council in relation to:

- a) its external boundary;
- b) the number of parish councillors it should have (its 'size'); and
- c) whether or not it would have its own parish wards (and what they would be).

A five year electorate forecast (to December 2020) for the current Moreton Hall Ward of Bury St Edmunds (Town and Borough Council) is around 5375 electors. The electorate of any new parish would be hard to estimate ahead of its boundaries being fixed, but this number may be a useful guide to those responding to this consultation. You can see a map of the current Moreton Hall Ward at:

http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Voting_and_Elections/upload/MoretonHallWard.pdf.

The minimum size of any new parish council for Moreton Hall would be 5 councillors, but 11 councillors would be consistent with several other large parishes in the Borough. By comparison, Bury St Edmunds Town Council comprises 17 councillors to represent the nine wards of the town (and around

28,950 electors). Three of these town councillors represent the Moreton Hall Ward.

The boundary of any new parish would need to reflect a common community identity and support convenient and effective local government. Boundaries should also, where possible, be linked to recognisable ground features, particularly those which form natural boundaries themselves.

A decision on the boundary for any new parish would need to be considered alongside issues 4, 6 and 8 in this Community Governance Review (see Consultation map D). The Borough Council also expects that there will be a review of Borough Council and town council wards before the next scheduled elections in 2019 (and after this CGR is finished).

There is no requirement for any new parish council to have wards of its own. However, any new parish could be divided into wards if it was felt that different parts of it would benefit from dedicated representation. The number of councillors for each ward would reflect the proportion of parish electors in it, to provide electoral equality.

Parish precept

The national guidance is clear that the key issue for a CGR is how best to provide the conditions for effective and convenient local government in the long-term. However, the Borough Council recognises that it is inevitable that parish precepts (the parish council's share of the Council Tax) will influence some consultation responses for the CGR.

The level of a precept is a democratically-accountable matter for an individual parish council to decide, and will be influenced by what costs a parish has or wants to meet at a particular time, and the number of households eligible to pay Council Tax. It is therefore really hard to predict what the level of any precept will be in the future, particularly for a parish council yet to be created.

Parish/town council precepts in the Borough will range from £5.78 to £113.10 in 2016/17 for a Band D property, depending on the size of a parish and the services it directly provides. Bury St Edmunds Town Council has precepted £23.40 in 2016/17 for a Band D property.

Impact on Bury St Edmunds Town Council

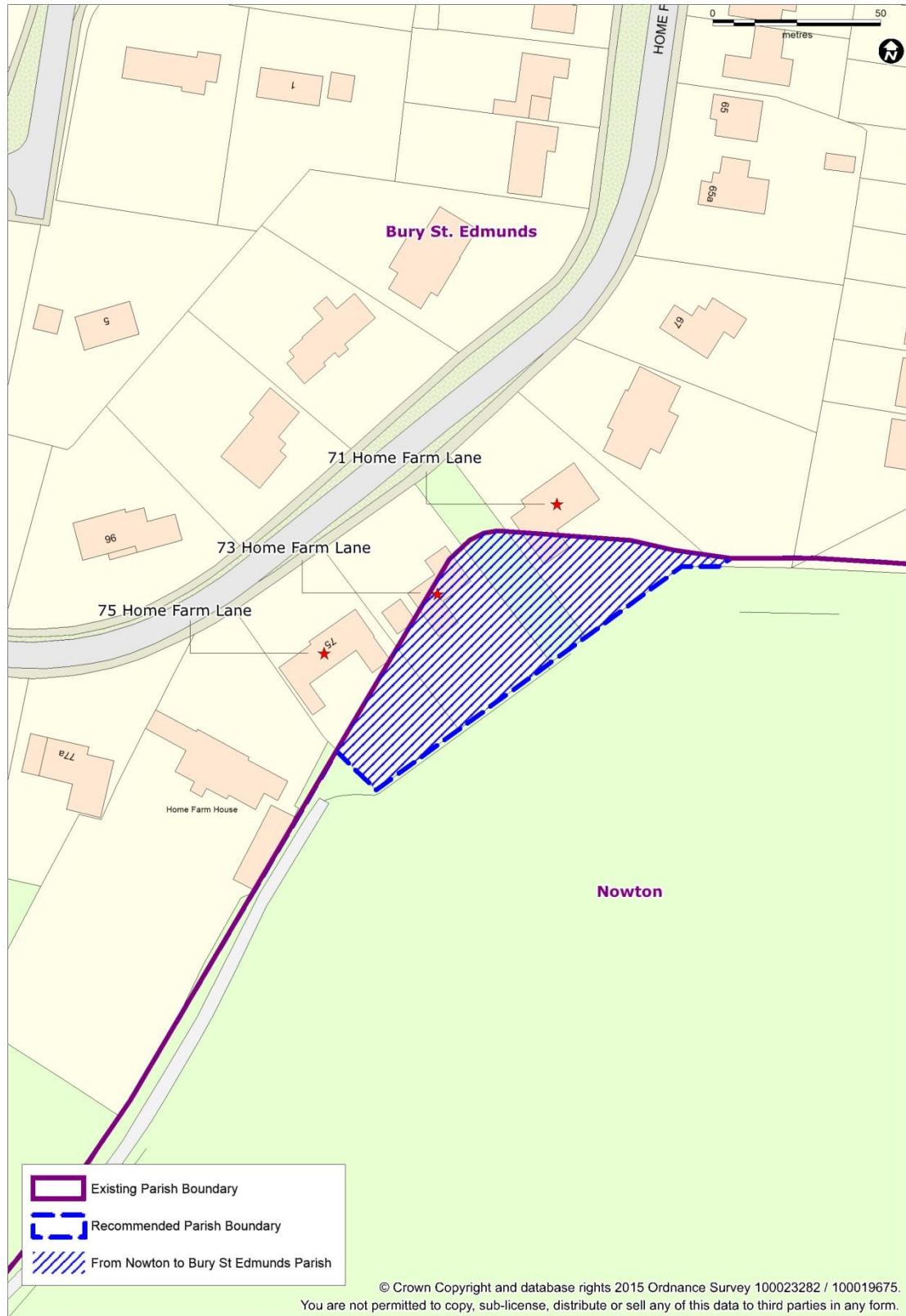
A new parish council for Moreton Hall would be formed from existing parished areas. Specifically, this would see the transfer of a significant portion of Bury St Edmunds Parish from the Town Council to a new parish council. As a reference point, the existing Moreton Hall Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish comprised 5361 electors (or 18.5% of the total for the Parish) in December 2015.

The loss of these electors would not affect the powers or functions of the Town Council. However, it would reduce the tax-base of the Parish. The impact on the Town Council's precept would be impossible to predict for the reasons explained above in the "parish precept" section, and because there could be other changes to the Town Council's area arising from this CGR (see CGR issues 1, 2 and 5 in particular).

No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
8	29 Primack Road 67 Mortimer Road 87 Mortimer Road 89 Mortimer Road 91 Mortimer Road 93 Mortimer Road 95 Mortimer Road This issue should be read in conjunction with issues 4, 6 and 7	•Bury St Edmunds •Rushbrooke with Rougham	The parish boundary between Bury St Edmunds and Rushbrooke with Rougham in the vicinity of Mortimer and Primack Roads.
Final Recommendation			
<p>The properties be transferred from Rushbrooke with Rougham Parish to Bury St Edmunds Parish as shown on consultation map D.</p> <p>This recommendation would apply irrespective of the outcome of issues 4, 6 and 7. If this change were to be made in isolation, the Council would propose the new boundary shown in consultation map D (i.e. using Lady Miriam Way as the new boundary). Consultation map D is on page 14.</p> <p>In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26, the transferred parish area of Bury St Edmunds will be temporarily added to the existing Moreton Hall Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (<i>the principle of the proposal was supported by the Parish and Town Councils and the local electors who responded in phase 1</i>); 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government; and 3. it reflects the strong boundary of Lady Miriam Way. 			

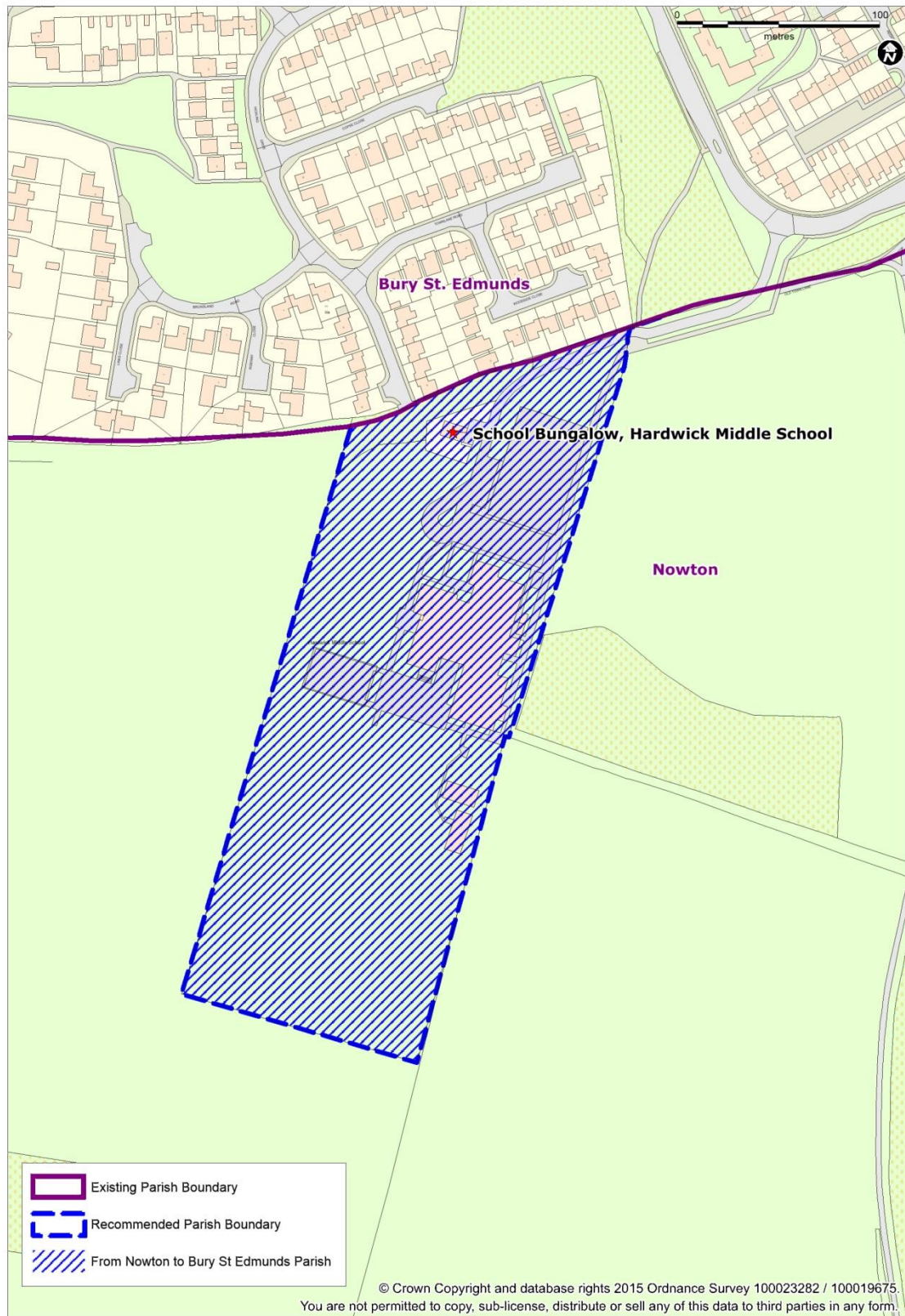
No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
9	71, 73 and 75 Home Farm Lane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Nowton 	The parish boundary between Bury St Edmunds and Nowton to the rear of 71, 73 and 75 Home Farm Lane
Final Recommendation			
<p>The properties be transferred from Nowton Parish to Bury St Edmunds Parish as shown on consultation map F.</p> <p>In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26, the transferred parish area of Bury St Edmunds will be temporarily added to the existing Southgate Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference <i>(the principle of the proposal was supported by the Town Council and the local electors who responded in phase 1);</i> and 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government. 			

Consultation map F – Issue 9



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
10	School Bungalow, Hardwick Middle School, Mayfield Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Nowton 	The parish boundary between Bury St Edmunds and Nowton in relation to Hardwick Middle School.
Final Recommendation			
<p>The whole school site (including bungalow) be transferred from Nowton Parish to Bury St Edmunds Parish as shown on consultation map G.</p> <p>In accordance with the recommendations in issue 26, the transferred parish area of Bury St Edmunds will be temporarily added to the existing Southgate Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.</p> <p>The proposed new boundary is shown on consultation map G.</p> <p>The reason for the recommendation is that it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of the local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government, as well as reflecting the association of the whole school site with Bury St Edmunds Parish(from which it is accessed).</p>			

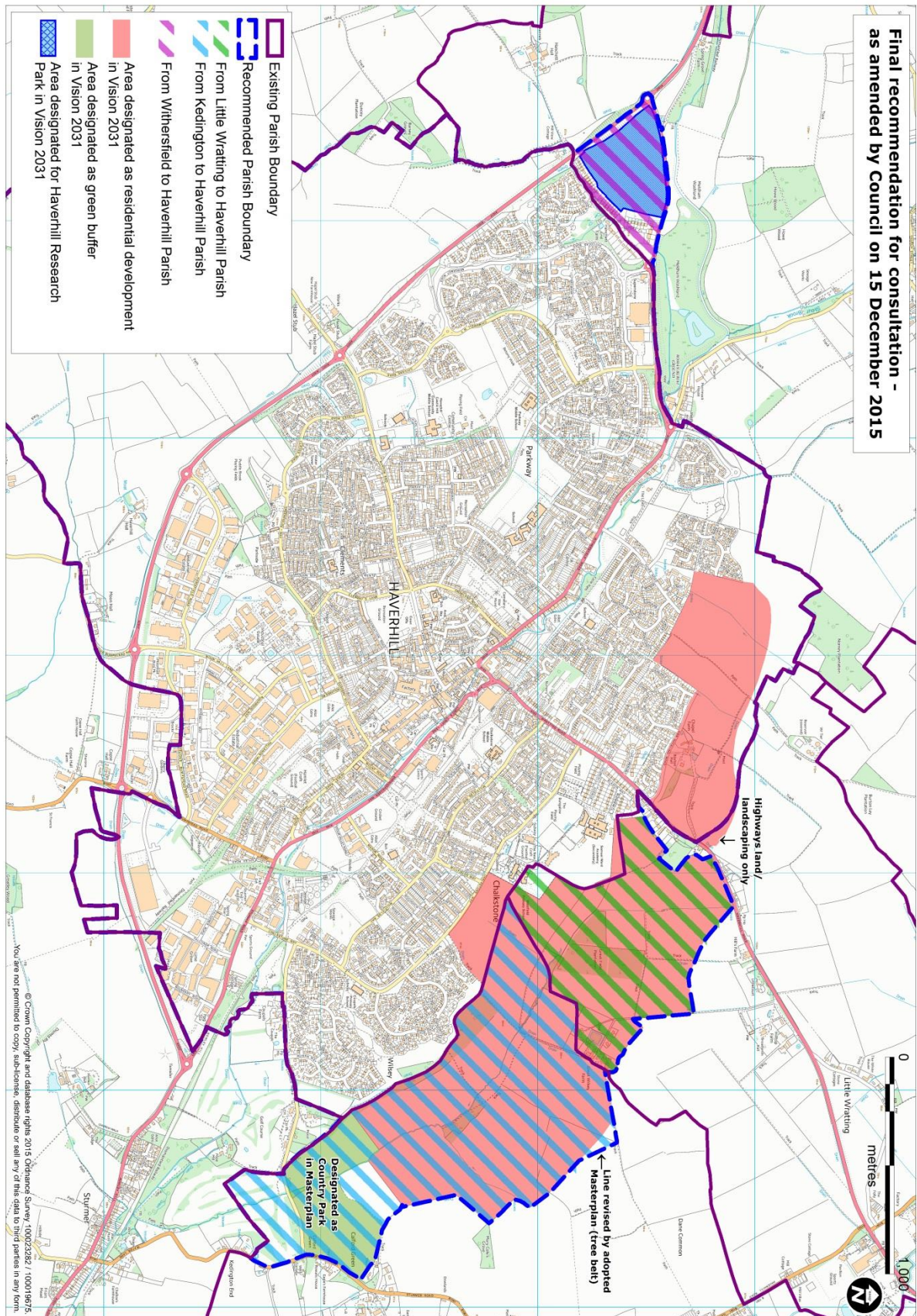
Consultation map G – Issue 10



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
11	136 Newmarket Road This issue needs to be read in conjunction with issue 2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bury St Edmunds •Westley 	The parish boundary between Bury St Edmunds and Westley
Final Recommendation			
<p>The property be transferred from Westley Parish to Bury St Edmunds Parish.</p> <p>This recommendation would apply irrespective of the outcome of issue 2 and is illustrated in the map for that issue (map B – see page 8).</p> <p>If this change were to be made in isolation, the new boundary would simply follow the railway line and Newmarket Road to enclose the property and allow its transfer to Bury St Edmunds.</p> <p>In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26, the transferred parish area of Bury St Edmunds will be temporarily added to the existing Minden Ward of Bury St Edmunds Parish pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (<i>the principle of the proposal was supported by the affected local electors</i>); and 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government. 			

No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
12	Vision 2031 Strategic Site "North-West Haverhill"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Haverhill •Little Wratting 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.
Final Recommendation No change be made to the current parish boundaries in relation to the Vision 2031 Strategic Site "North-West Haverhill" i.e. the new homes will be in Haverhill Parish. <p>The Council and respondents felt that the changes made in a previous Community Governance Review remained sufficiently effective.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference and/or evidence (<i>the principle of the proposal was supported by the town and parish councils and parish meeting in phase 1, and by many of the local electors who commented</i>). 2. It offers parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents and businesses (current and future) and offer them more effective and convenient local government (<i>the Town Council has suggested that administrative boundaries around Haverhill should reflect the patterns of everyday life and the ability of the respective parish and town councils to provide effective local government to new and existing electors. There was also consensus that the identity of all surrounding villages should be protected through the CGR</i>). <p><u>Five Year Electorate Forecast</u></p> <p>For reference purposes, the latest total projected electorate change relating to the new homes in the Vision 2031 growth site (i.e. when fully developed) is 1898. Although hard to predict ahead of development starting, it is possible that over 350 electors could be living in the new homes by December 2020. As a baseline, the 2015 electorates of Little Wratting Parish and Haverhill Parish were 101 and 18,031 respectively.</p>			

Consultation Map H – Issues 12-14



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
13	Vision 2031 Strategic Site "North-East Haverhill"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Haverhill •Little Wratting •Kedington 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.

Final Recommendation

The boundary of Haverhill Parish be extended as indicated on consultation map H to incorporate the Vision 2031 Strategic Site "North-East Haverhill".

Consultation map H can be found on page 28 of this document.

The new northern boundary for Haverhill which the Council suggests should be tested through consultation reflects the Vision 2031 growth sites and elements of the submissions of the town and parish councils and parish meeting. In addition, the Council has proposed the testing of the Town Council's suggestion that, since the green buffer for the North-East growth site by Calford Green is designated as park land, it would also make more sense to include this area within the Haverhill boundary.

In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26, if these proposals are agreed, the transferred parish areas would be temporarily added to the existing Haverhill East Ward, pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

The reason for the recommendation include:

- 1. local preference and/or evidence** *(the principle of the proposal for issue 13 was supported by the town and parish councils and parish meeting in phase 1, and by many of the local electors who commented);*
- 2. it potentially offers parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents and businesses (current and future) and offer them more effective and convenient local government** *(the Town Council has suggested that administrative boundaries around Haverhill should reflect the patterns of everyday life and the ability of the respective parish and town councils to provide effective local government to new and existing electors. There was also consensus that the identity of all surrounding villages should be protected through the CGR).*

Five Year Electorate Forecast

For reference purposes, the latest total projected electorate change relating to the new homes in the Vision 2031 growth site (i.e. when fully developed) is 4125. Although hard to predict ahead of development starting, it is possible, for the purposes of this review, that around 500 electors could be living in the new homes by December 2020. As a baseline, the 2015 electorates of the affected parishes were:

- Little Wratting Parish: 101
- Kedington Parish: 1429
- Haverhill Parish: 18,031

No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
14	Vision 2031 Strategic Site "Hanchett End" (Haverhill Research Park) <i>(All of the area bounded by the A1017, A1307 and Hanchett End)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Haverhill •Withersfield 	Whether or not existing parish governance arrangements should be amended in respect of new homes and/or employment land included in the strategic growth site.

Final Recommendation

The boundary of Haverhill Parish be extended as indicated on consultation map H to incorporate the "Hanchett End (Haverhill Research Park)" Vision 2031 Strategic Site.

Consultation map H can be found on page 28 of this document.

The new northern boundary for Haverhill which the Council suggests should be tested through consultation reflects the Vision 2031 growth sites and elements of the submissions of the town and parish councils and parish meeting. In accordance with the recommendations for issue 26, if these proposals are agreed, the transferred parish areas would be temporarily added to the existing Haverhill West Ward, pending any review of town and borough council wards by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England.

The reasons for the recommendation include:

- 1. local preference and/or evidence** *(There was no consensus over issue 14 in phase 1, with Withersfield Parish Council and most existing local electors who responded opposed to what is being recommended but the Town Council and the Research Park operator providing evidence that the growth site should be in Haverhill. Therefore the Borough Council believes local preference should be tested further through consultation on this final recommendation to obtain more evidence);*
- 2. it potentially offers parish boundaries to reflect the identities and interests of local residents and businesses (current and future) and offer them more effective and convenient local government** *(the Town Council has suggested that administrative boundaries around Haverhill should reflect the patterns of everyday life and the ability of the respective parish and town councils to provide effective local government to new and existing electors. There was also consensus that the identity of all surrounding villages should be protected through the CGR).*

N.B. Changes to parish boundaries would not normally affect existing postal addresses, postcodes, school catchment areas or insurance premiums.

Five Year Electorate Forecast

The 2015 electorate of Withersfield Parish was 443 (including established homes at Hanchett End and new ones within the Research Park) and, under the current boundaries, this might be expected to rise to over 550 by December 2020 when the growth site is fully developed. Around 300 of these electors in 2020 would transfer to Haverhill Parish under the consultation recommendation, which is likely to leave around 250 electors in Withersfield Parish.

No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
15	County boundary between Suffolk and Essex adjacent to Haverhill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Haverhill •Withersfield •Kedington •Parishes in Essex 	The boundary between Essex and Suffolk around Haverhill. <i>The Borough Council does not have the ability to make changes to county boundaries as part of this CGR but can consult on this issue and raise these concerns with the Local Government Boundary Commission and ask them to carry out a Principal Area Boundary Review.</i>

Final Recommendation

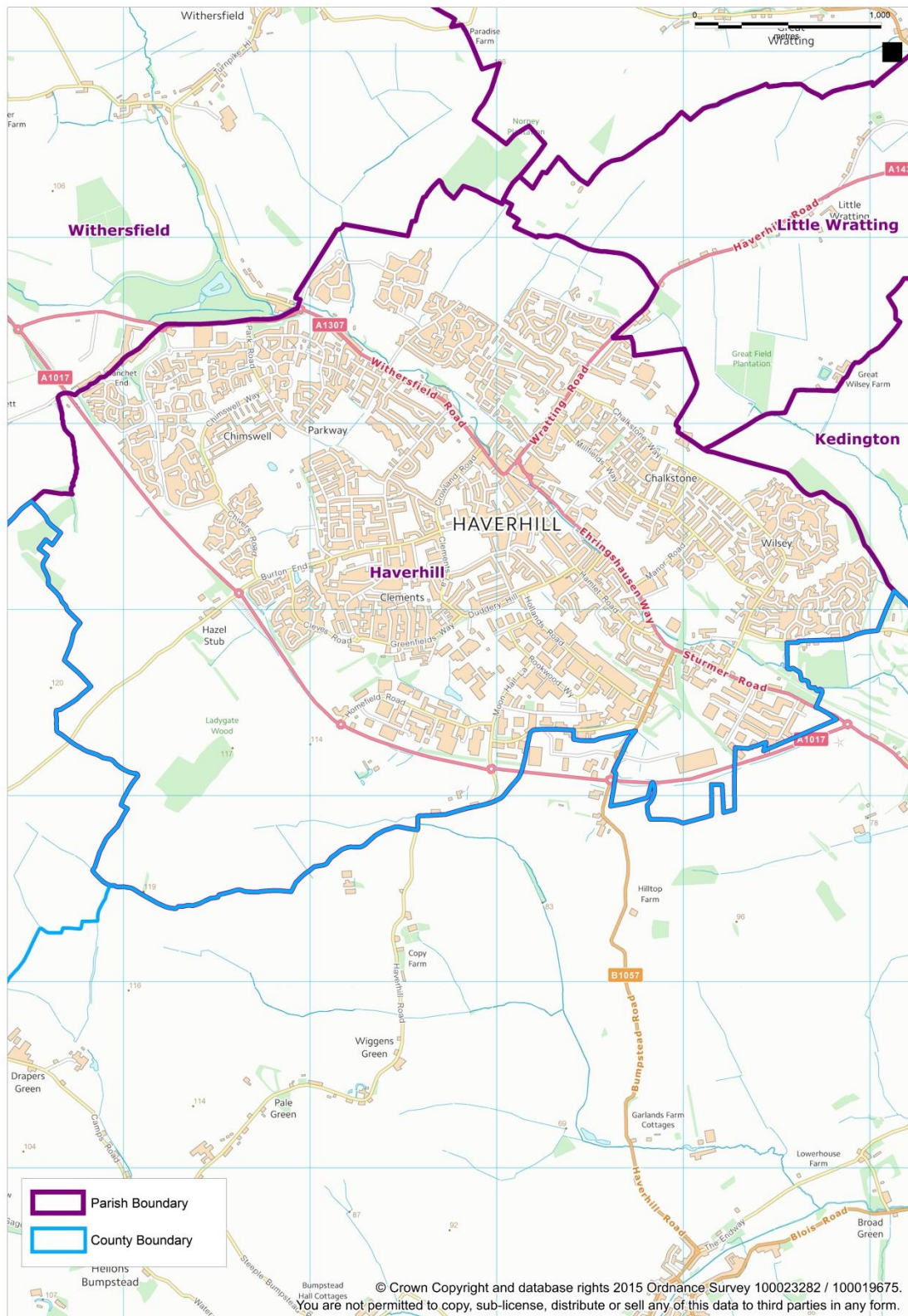
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England be asked to carry out a principal area boundary review in respect of the historic Essex/Suffolk boundary to the south and east of Haverhill.

The Borough Council cannot make changes in respect of this issue through the CGR. However, the Council considers there is sufficient evidence to suggest that the current boundary is now anomalous in relation to current ground features, recent and future development and patterns of everyday life. A review by the Commission could therefore provide more appropriate parish, district and county boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and businesses and offer them more effective and convenient local government.

As consultation map I overleaf shows, there is a particular anomaly along the eastern stretch of the A1017 where properties within the relief road are in Braintree District but clearly within the town of Haverhill. Submissions have also been received during phase 1 of the CGR to suggest the small area to the north of Coupals Road might more logically form part of Suffolk.

The Council noted that changes were strongly objected to by Sturmer Parish Council and that Braintree District Council did not see any compelling reason to change the historical boundaries at the current time. However, Haverhill Town Council felt strongly that the boundary should be amended.

Consultation map I – Issue 15



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
16	Hermitage Farmhouse, Snow Hill, Clare (CO10 8QE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Clare •Poslingford 	Boundary between Clare and Poslingford in vicinity of Hermitage Farm
Final Recommendation			
<p>The area shown on consultation map J be transferred from Poslingford Parish to Clare Parish.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (<i>the principle of the proposal was supported by the affected electors and local elected representatives who responded</i>); 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government. 			

Consultation Map J – Issue 16

0 100 metres

Poslingford

Clare

Hermitage Farmhouse, Snow Hill, Clare

Chilton Stream

Pond

Lakes

Drain

Track

Pumping Station

Hermitage Close

Bridewell Industrial Estate

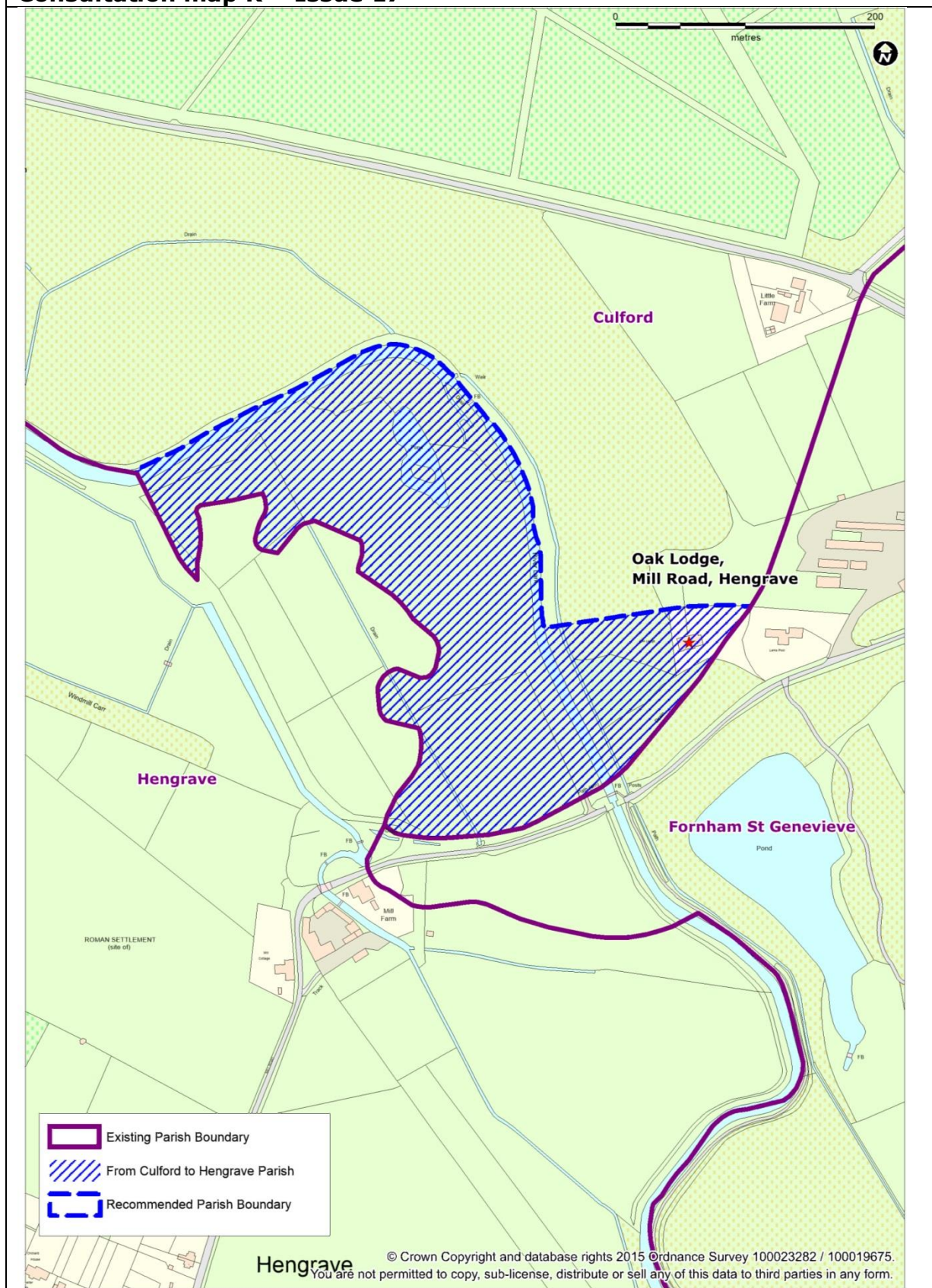
Legend:

- Existing Parish Boundary
- Recommended Parish Boundary
- From Poslingford to Clare Parish

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No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
17	Oak Lodge, Mill Road, Hengrave (IP28 6LP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Culford •Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve •Hengrave 	Boundary between Culford, Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve and Hengrave in vicinity of Mill Road
Final Recommendation			
<p>The area shown on consultation map K be transferred from Culford Parish to Hengrave Parish.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (<i>the principle of a transfer from Culford Parish was supported by all respondents, and a transfer to Hengrave Parish was the preference of the affected electors themselves</i>); and 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government (<i>the local electors stated they were most closely affiliated with nearby Hengrave Village</i>). 			

Consultation map K – Issue 17



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
18	Lodge Farmhouse, Lodge Farm, Seven Hills, Ingham (IP31 1PT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Culford •Ingham 	Boundary between Culford and Ingham Parish in vicinity of Lodge Farm

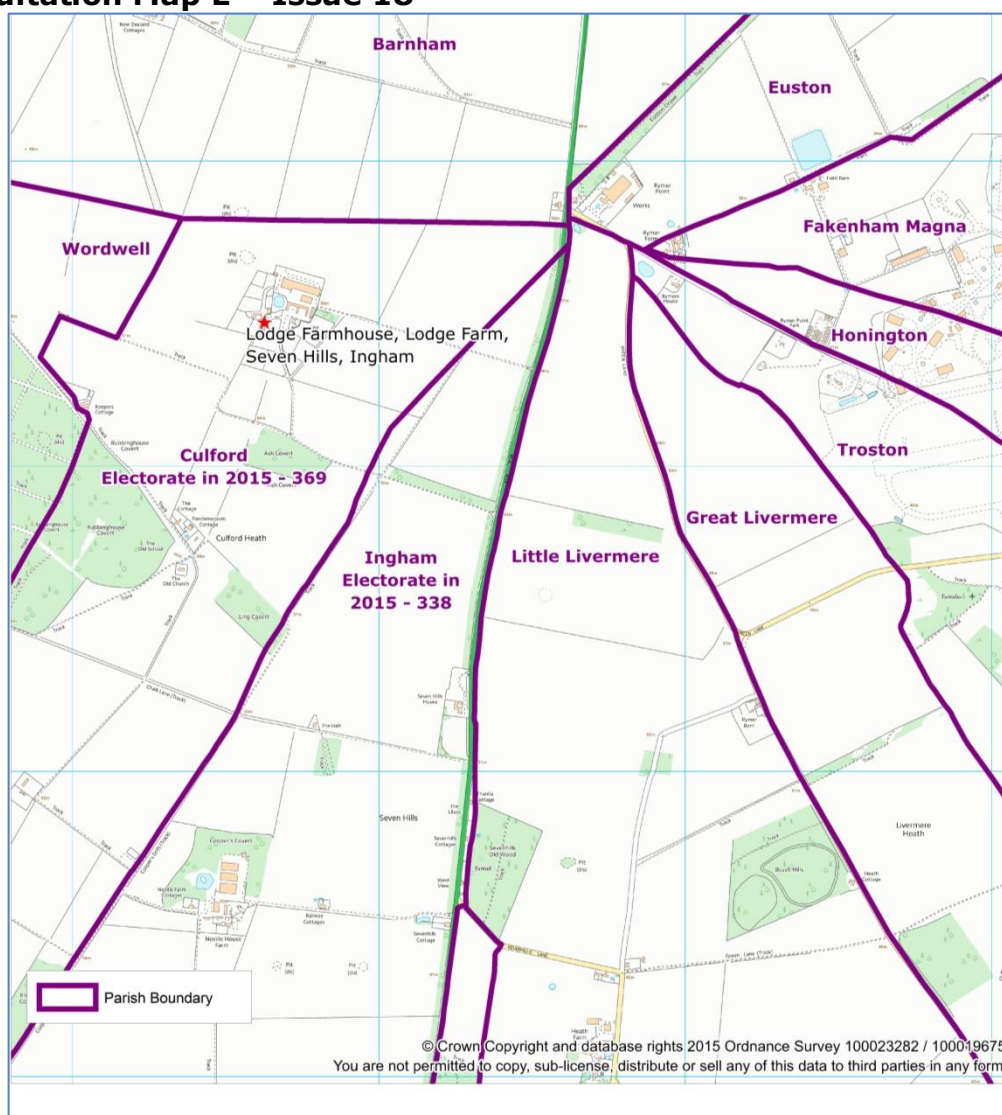
Final Recommendation

No change be made to the current parish boundaries (i.e. the property remains in Culford Parish, as shown on consultation map L)

The reasons for the recommendation include:

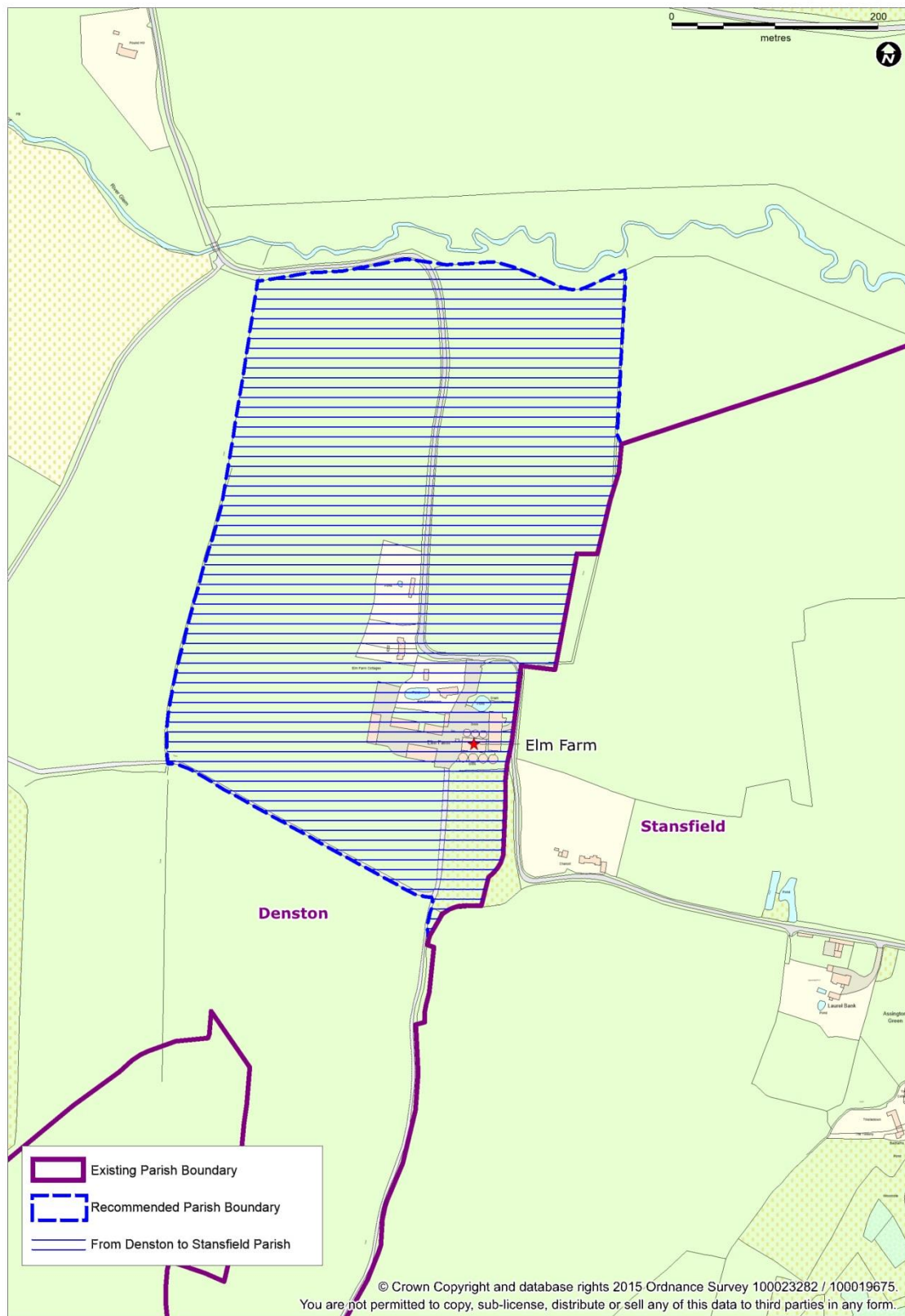
1. **local preference** (the consensus of those who responded was for no change); and
2. **it retains parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors.**

Consultation Map L – Issue 18



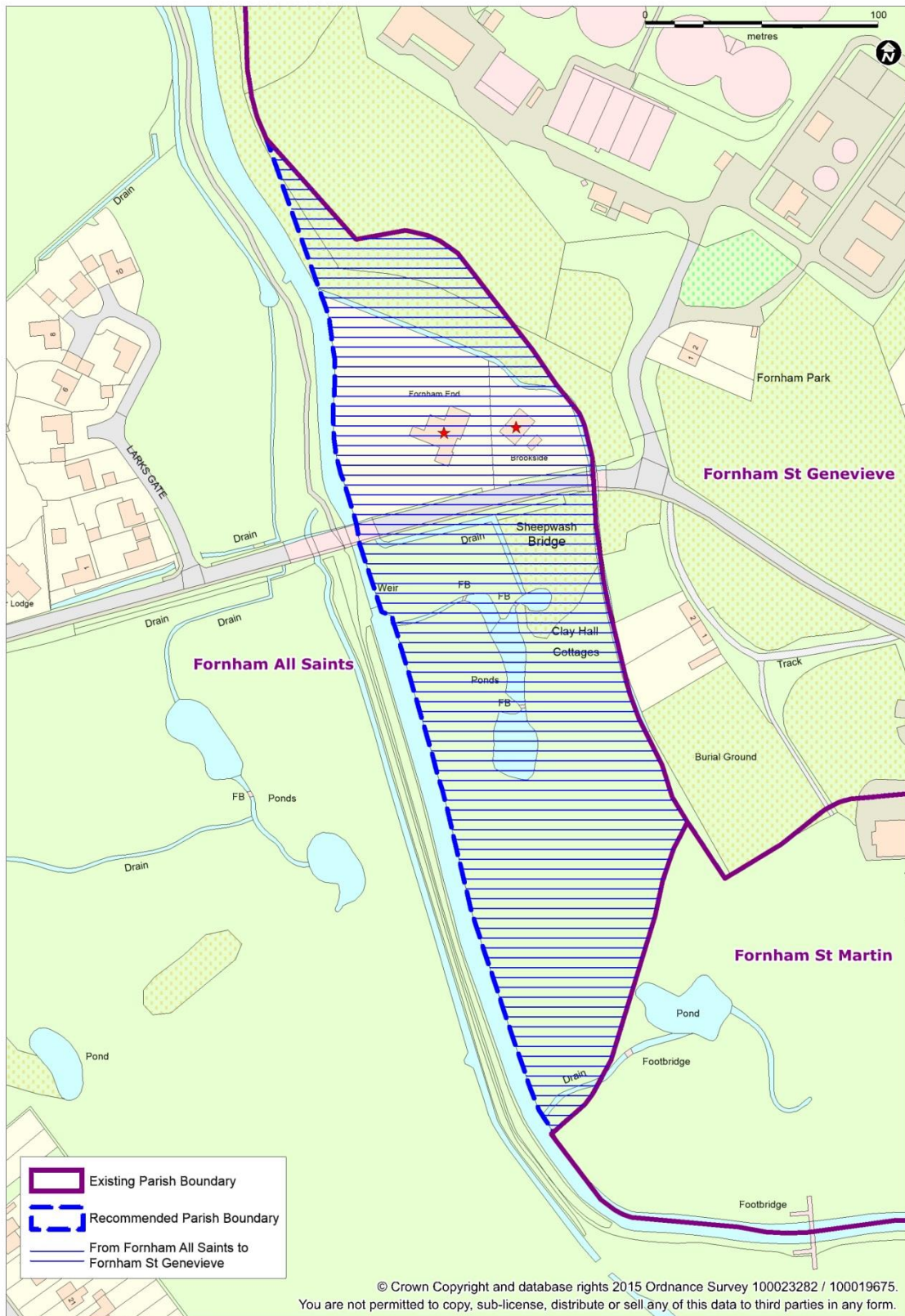
No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
19	Elm Farm and associated cottages, Assington Green, Stansfield (CO10 8LY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Denston •Stansfield 	Boundary between the parishes of Denston and Stansfield in vicinity of Elm Farm
Final Recommendation			
<p>The area shown on consultation map M be transferred from Denston Parish to Stansfield Parish.</p> <p>The request for the transfer was received from Stansfield Parish Council which believes the properties in question have closer links to Stansfield socially and geographically, and would benefit from the democratic representation of a parish council. This view was supported by the County Councillor. However, Denston Parish Meeting was unable to respond during phase 1 of the review since it fell between parish meetings. The affected electors also expressed strong and differing views on whether to transfer from or remain in Denston. The Council therefore felt that it would be worth exploring the potential for the change further through consultation in phase 2, by way of a definite proposal.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference and/or evidence (see above); and 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government. 			

Consultation map M – Issue 19



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
20	Area between Fornham Lock Bridge and the Sheepwash Bridge, adjacent to the sewage works entrance, Fornham St Martin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Fornham All Saints •Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve 	Boundary between the parishes of Fornham All Saints and Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve along the B1106.
Final Recommendation			
<p>The area shown on consultation map N be transferred from Fornham All Saints Parish to Fornham St Genevieve Parish.</p> <p>There was not a consensus from phase 1 on whether or not to make a change, with the parish councils and affected electors expressing different views. The Council therefore felt there was merit in a final recommendation to use the river as a strong natural boundary being tested through further consultation.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference and/or evidence (see above); 2. it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government; and 3. it utilises the strong natural boundary of the river. 			

Consultation Map N – Issue 20



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
21	RAF Honington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Honington cum Sapiston •Troston 	Parish boundaries and ward arrangements in respect of RAF Honington (and their consequential impact upon Borough, County and Parliamentary representation).

Final Recommendation

The Village and Station parish wards of Honington Parish be removed (see consultation map O for current ward boundaries), so that the two electoral areas can be combined and represented by seven councillors for the Parish as a whole.

It will be possible to maintain separate polling stations for the station and village even if the parish wards are removed (by way of two polling districts, just as in urban wards e.g. Honington 1 and 2 Registers). This will enable the Parish to remain in separate borough, county and parliamentary areas pending any consequential electoral reviews.

The electoral and parish arrangements for Sapiston are not affected by this proposal. Similarly, Troston is not affected.

For the reasons explained in Issue 26, it is still possible that, to achieve electoral equality in borough wards or county divisions, the LGBCE might require the two parish wards to stay in place or reinstate them at some future point. This is not a reason not to make the change in this CGR, but a risk of which to be aware. Also, as part of its final decision on the CGR in summer 2016, the Borough Council will be in a position to decide whether or not the best means of removing the parish wards is through the CGR or a subsequent electoral review of the Borough.

The reasons for the recommendation include:

1. **local preference** (*the principle of the proposal was supported by the Parish Councils and the RAF Station Commander following consultation with RAF personnel*);
2. **it potentially provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government**; and
3. **it assists in terms of ensuring elected representation for the whole Parish.**

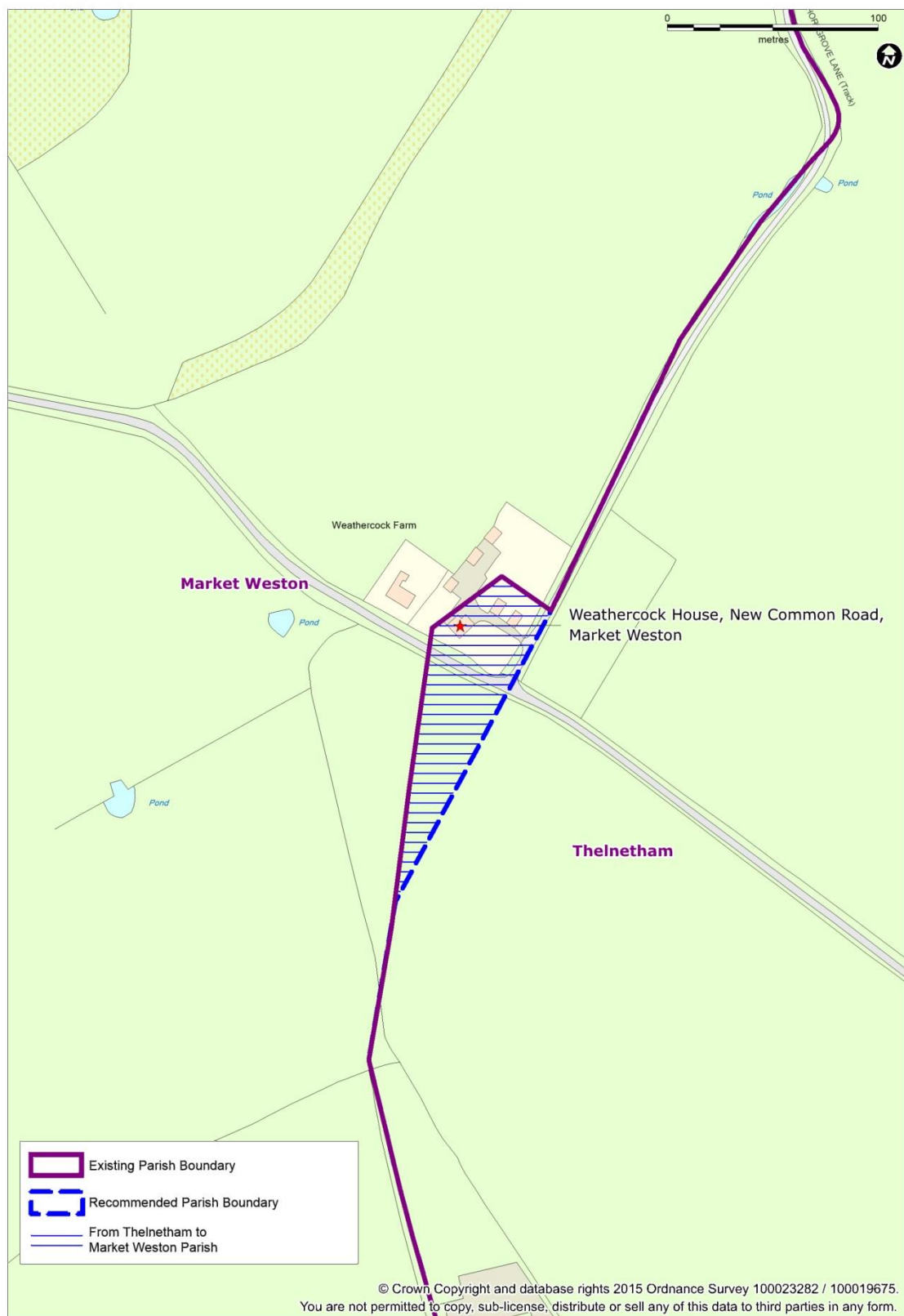
Five Year Electorate Forecast

The Autumn 2015 electorates for the parish and its wards are shown on consultation map O. Using the December 2015 electoral register as a guide, the effect of combining the two wards would be a Parish of over 660 electors in 2020.

This consultation map displays the proposed parish boundary for Honington and Troston, outlined in purple. The map also shows three parish wards: Honington (Station Ward) in red, Honington (Village Ward) in pink, and Troston in light blue. Each ward is labeled with its name and the number of electors in 2015. The map includes various geographical features such as airfields, playing fields, ponds, and roads. A scale bar at the top right indicates distances up to 500 metres, and a north arrow is located in the bottom right corner. A legend in the bottom left corner identifies the symbols for the Parish Boundary and Parish Ward. The map is titled "Consultation map O - Issue 21" at the top. At the bottom, there is a copyright notice for Ordnance Survey and a disclaimer regarding the use of the data.

No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
22	Weathercock House, New Common Road, Market Weston (IP22 2PG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Market Weston •Thelnetham 	Boundary between Market Weston and Thelnetham in the vicinity of Weathercock House.
Final Recommendation			
<p>Weathercock House and the area shown on consultation map P be transferred from Thelnetham to Market Weston Parish.</p> <p>The reasons for the recommendation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference and/or evidence (<i>there was strong consensus for the change including from the affected electors</i>); and 2. it provides more appropriate parish boundaries to reflect the interests and identity of local electors and offers them more effective and convenient local government. 			

Consultation Map P – Issue 22



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
23	Properties on Dunstall Green Road between Ousden and Dalham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Dalham (Forest Heath District) •Ousden 	The boundary between St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Districts in the vicinity of Dalham and Ousden. <i>The Borough Council does not have the ability to make changes to district boundaries as part of this CGR but can consult on this issue and raise these concerns with the Local Government Boundary Commission and ask them to carry out a Principal Area Boundary Review.</i>

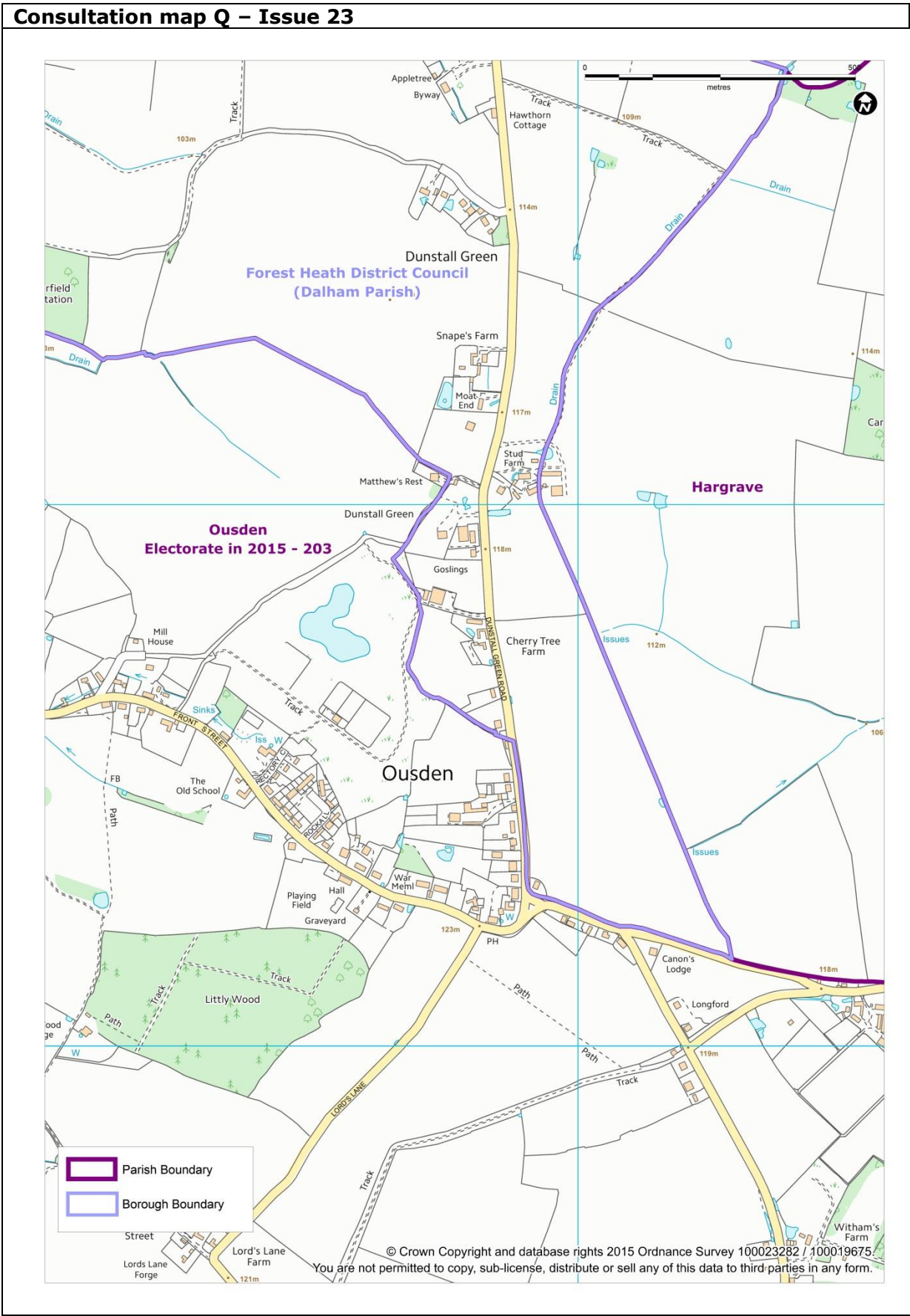
Final Recommendation

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England be asked to examine the boundary between St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath at Dunstall Green Road between Ousden and Dalham when it next carries out a principal area boundary review.

The Borough Council cannot make changes in respect of this issue through the CGR. However, the Council noted the preference of some affected local electors, Ousden and Hargrave Parish Councils and the County Councillor for Clare Division for a transfer of properties from Dalham to Ousden. However, the views of Dalham Parish Council are not known.

The area in question is shown on consultation map Q overleaf

Consultation map Q – Issue 23



No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
24	Stansfield Parish Council	Stansfield	Number of councillors for Stansfield Parish Council
Final Recommendation			
The number of parish councillors for Stansfield be increased from six to seven.			
The reasons for the recommendation include:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. local preference (this is a request from the Parish Council); and 2. it will assist the Parish Council to provide effective local government for the Parish by improving the efficiency of meetings and widening the pool of experience among elected members. 			

No	Area or Properties Under Review	Parishes Directly Affected	Matter covered by final recommendation
25	Great and Little Thurlow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Great Thurlow •Little Thurlow 	Whether or not to combine the parish councils of Great and Little Thurlow.
Final Recommendation			
No change be made to the community governance arrangements for Little Thurlow and Great Thurlow at the current time.			
<p>The reason for the recommendation is local preference - there is no consensus among the villages and local electors on whether or not to bring the two parishes together through formal changes to their electoral arrangements i.e. grouping or merging the two parishes to form one council.</p> <p>This issue was proposed by one of the two parishes for inclusion in (and examination under) the CGR. A range of views have been expressed in the first evidence gathering stage of the review, with no consensus emerging. In particular, Great Thurlow Parish Council has made it clear it favours no change to the current arrangements. It may also be that, reflecting subsequent comments from Little Thurlow Parish Council, it would be more appropriate to look at informal ways to build upon the successes of the existing joint arrangements between the two villages, outside of the formal constraints of a CGR process. This could link to the Council's Families and Communities Strategy and would not preclude this issue being returned to in any future CGR.</p>			