

14/08/17 - Purposed Changes to Parish Boundaries

Aim

To provide an overview of the Newport Town Council suggested changes to parish boundaries.

Newport Town Councils purpose to extend the Sothern Parish boundary of Newport to the A518, to match with the Telford and Wrekin ward boundary for consistency.

Background

Town Council resolved to support the recommendation from the planning committee at meeting on 12th March 2014 (Minutes 193/13-14).

Newport Town Council requested a governance review of Telford & Wrekin under the local government & public involvement in Health Act 2007 Section 93 (4) Powers to conduct reviews, terms of reference and general duties item 2.16 (reflects the identities and interest of the community in that area and is effective and convenient) 24th March 2014.

The Borough Councillor boundary was changed in the Boundary commission review in 2014, in which the four borough council wards were made into two wards (South & East Ward and North & West Ward) each with two councillors.

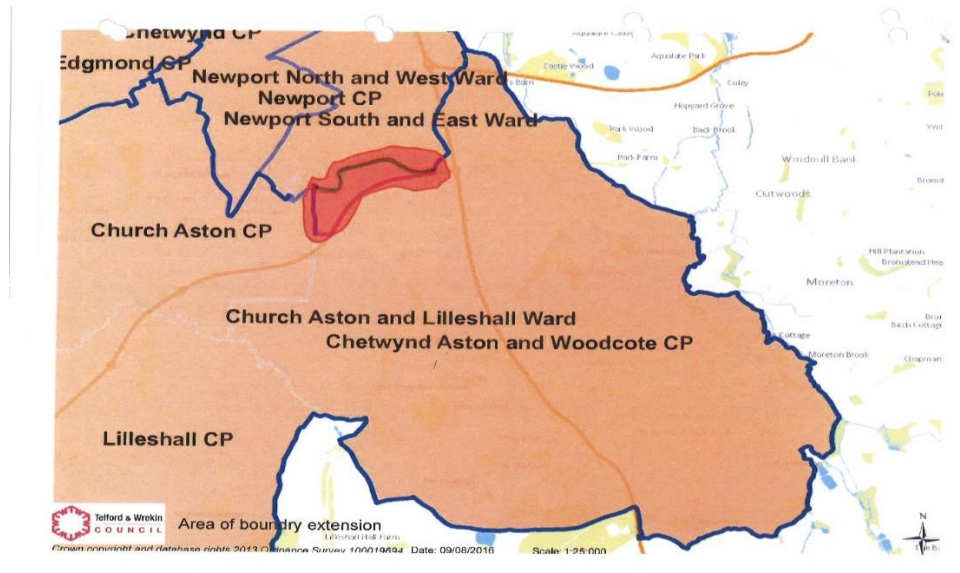
Discussion

Newport Town Council have been in correspondence with The Borough Council, To deliver the change in parish boundary, there needs to be a community governance review which would assess the facts based on the local boundary commission for England (LGBCE) guidelines and come up with a final recommendation regarding this boundary. The Borough council is looking to carry out outstanding Community Governance reviews during 2017/18 following the parliamentary boundary review (early 2016).

Following the review the LGBCE are responsible for making any reorganisation order required to change the boundary. Their guidance on reviews states that such an order would become effective from the first parish elections after it is made which would be in May 2019.

The residents within the suggested boundary change are likely to consider themselves residents of Newport and not Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote, as borough boundary

suggests. Housing developments within this area also assessed on, and approved because of their location is considered to be within the boundaries of Newport and not Chetwynd Aston and Woodcote, this is because the A518 and A41 which border Newport, are a more natural boundary than what exists.



The dark red area is area of discussion, the blue line represents the parish boundary for Newport, and the red line represents the Telford and Wrekin Consistency Boundary for Newport's South & East Ward.

Summary

There appear to some merits in considering extending the boundary of Newport in certain areas based upon:

- General public perception of what is Newport.
- The ability to properly represent future residents and provide services.
- Having a boundary that is consistent with Telford & Wrekin borough wards.

Certain features lend themselves to be natural boundary points, namely the A41 and A518.

Recommendations:

That the parish boundary is extended to match the Consistency boundary, and to be brought in to effect for the 2019 town and parish elections.