

**Electoral Services**

Council Offices  
Holt Road  
Cromer  
Norfolk  
NR27 9EN



Ed Maxfield  
Via email

Wednesday 17 February 2021

Dear Ed

**Community Governance Review – Proposed boundary change between Cromer Town South Ward (CT3), Northrepps parish (PO1) and Roughton Parish (RO3)**

At the meeting of Full Council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2020 it was agreed that North Norfolk District Council should proceed with undertaking a series of Community Governance Reviews across the District.

Information relating to the review being proposed for the above area is shown on the next page and a map detailing the proposed changes has also been enclosed for your reference.

**What is a Community Governance Review?**

A Community Governance Review is a review of the whole or part of the district to consider one or more of the following:

- Creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes;
- The naming of parishes in the style of new parishes;
- The electoral arrangements for parishes (the ordinary year of election, council size, the number of Councillors to be elected to the council and parish warding);
- Grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes

**Why undertake the review?**

The Community Governance Review aims to secure an arrangement which:

- Reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area
- Is effective and convenient
- Takes into account any other arrangements for the purpose of community representation or community engagement.

It ought to result in arrangements which will bring about improved community engagement, better local democracy and result in more effective and convenient delivery of local services.

We seek to gain the views of residents and provide the District Council with an opportunity to put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries.

Local Government Boundary Commission England (LGBCE) guidance states that parish boundaries:

- should reflect the “no-man’s land” between communities represented by areas of low population or barriers such as rivers, roads or railways;
- should consider parks and recreation grounds which sometimes provide natural breaks between communities but can equally act as focal points;
- would be unlikely to straddle a geographical feature or significant infrastructure such as a railway or motor way with no crossing points.
- Whichever boundaries are chosen, they will need to be, and be likely to remain, easily identifiable.

### The consultation:

The first stage of this Review is a period of consultation. We are writing to the households which are affected by the proposed amendments and to other relevant bodies such as the Parish Councils and Norfolk County Council to ensure there is the opportunity to comment on the proposal put forward by North Norfolk District Council.

This proposal will see properties which currently fall within the Northrepps Parish, in streets and developments before the railway bridge which are accessed off the A149 Norwich Road, be moved into the Cromer Town South Ward. The properties affected by this change are; Christophers Close, Finch Close, Nightingale Close, Bridge Terrace, and finally the remaining properties on Ridgeway and Stevens Road and some Norwich Road properties which do not already fall within the existing Cromer Town South Ward.

This boundary move would also be changed between Northrepps and Roughton so it no longer cuts across the railway line and the wooded area known as Becketts Plantation but instead that it runs behind the properties on Burnt Hills and down to the west side of the wooded area until it meets the existing boundary which would create a boundary using easily identifiable land markings.

These proposals would have implications for residents in terms of both Council Tax parish precept and governance. The below table shows the difference of precept based on the current 2020/21 year for each property band:

Property Band	Northrepps Parish precept	Cromer Town precept
A	£28.43	£63.28
B	£33.17	£73.83
C	£37.91	£84.37
D	£42.65	£94.92
E	£52.13	£114.56

In terms of governance, the affected electors will move from Northrepps Parish Council to Cromer Town Council. They will also be moved from the Poppyland district ward to the Cromer Town South ward in term of District governance and in respect of County Council governance from the Mundesley Division to the Cromer Division. The designated polling station would also change from Northrepps Village Hall to Merchants Place, Church Street, Cromer.

Any comments or representations in relation to this proposal can be made by completing the attached form and returning it to Electoral Services, North Norfolk District Council, Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9EN in the enclosed freepost reply envelope or alternatively by emailing us at [review@north-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:review@north-norfolk.gov.uk) **before this initial consultation closes on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021.**

### What happens next:

After the closure of the consultation period we will review and consider all responses received.

Draft recommendations will be prepared and duly considered by District Councillors at a meeting of Full Council to seek authority to move to a final period of consultation on any draft recommendations.

At the end of the further consultation period, final recommendations will be prepared and then considered by Full Council. Upon approval, the Community Governance Order will be made and implementation of the changes will occur with effect 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

If you have any questions relating to this review please contact me using the details shown above.

Yours Sincerely

Senior Elections Officer (Team Leader)