

## **Portfolio Holder Decision, amend the Area Designation to Bishop's Itchington due to Parish boundary changes, 04 March 2020**

The District Council first received an Area Designation application from Bishop's Itchington Parish Council on 18 September 2013. The area was formally designated on the 13 January 2014.

In March 2017, Harbury and Bishop's Itchington Parish Councils submitted a request to the Council to undertake a Community Governance Review. This was due to the existing parish boundary having the potential to dissect new housing development planned for the area. The proposed new parish boundary would ensure that the new development was located within one parish (Bishop's Itchington) as it was suggested that the new development will have greater affinity with that parish. Both parishes met and agreed to this proposal of which a copy of the letter requesting the review is attached to this note as Appendix 1.

On 11 December 2017, a report was taken to Council seeking agreement to proceed with the change to the Parish Boundary following the Community Governance Review that was carried out. It was agreed at this meeting that the parish boundary should be changed and this came into effect in April 2019. At a meeting held on the 15 March 2018 at which both Bishop's Itchington and Harbury Parish Council were present, it was agreed in principle that Harbury progress their NDP and once the boundary changes come into effect, Bishop's Itchington would apply to change the designated area for their plan. SDC would then change the Harbury NDP designation. A copy of the minutes from this meeting are attached as Appendix 2 and Harbury adopted their plan on the 17 December 2018.

Bishop's Itchington submitted a new application on the 31 October 2019 for the formal designation of a Neighbourhood Plan Area reflecting the boundary changes and therefore amending their previous area designation application. The boundary changes also affect the area designation for Harbury. A copy of the revised area application is attached as Appendix 3 and a copy of both the previous parish boundary and revised parish boundary is attached as Appendix 4.

As mentioned above, Bishop's Itchington consulted closely with Harbury Parish Council throughout the process of the governance review, and also discussed the impact that any change in the designated area for the Bishop's Itchington NDP would have on Harbury, which already has a made NDP. With the revised application, there is unlikely to be any physical impact due to Harbury village being located some distance from the boundary, and while there are a few properties close to the boundary which are not part of the new housing development, they will all remain within Harbury Parish. The Harbury NDP does not include any proposals or policies which may be affected by either the change in the parish boundary or a change in the designated area for the Bishop's Itchington NDP. On the 27 February 2020, Harbury Parish Council gave its consent to make an amendment to their Neighbourhood Plan (Appendix 5).

### **Conclusion**

A revised Area Designation application has been submitted by Bishop's Itchington Parish Council for the designation of the parish of the Parish of Bishops's Itchington as a Neighbourhood Plan Area by the District Council. This is the first formal stage in the neighbourhood planning process and if adopted it will enable the development of the Bishop's Itchington Neighbourhood Plan. The Area submitted, follows the parish boundary which complies with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations and as such it is the recommendation of officers to approve this application.

### **Appendices**

- APPENDIX 1 – Letter requesting a review

- APPENDIX 2 – Minutes following meeting 15 March 2018
- APPENDIX 3 – Revised Area Application
- APPENDIX 4 – Parish Boundary maps
- APPENDIX 5 – Confirmation from Harbury Parish Council