

[REDACTED]

Electoral Services,
South Norfolk District Council,
Cygnet Court,
Swan Lane,
Long Stratton,
NR15 2XE

10th July, 2017



Dear Sirs,

Review of Community Governance for Heywood Parish Meeting

Further to completion of the Survey, we had problems with completing Box 16, so we are attaching some further comments.

Wards:

We understand that we are presently warded with Bressingham and Burston, however Diss have made representation to the Boundary Commission and South Norfolk Special Arrangements Committee on the 30th August, 2016 to be warded with perhaps Heywood. Other parishes have also made representation to us because of our zero precept we believe! Heywood Parish is predominantly a farming community of approximately 2,607 acres (1,055 hectares) and is 4.3 miles long as the crow flies. It has only 175 electors and is classified as open countryside and as such does not receive any new development. Over the last 14 years since formation it has cost an average of £55 per annum to run our parish. Heywood does have an infrastructure problem with very poor and worn out roads, no mains drainage, no street lighting and poor broadband. None of our residents wish to be part of Diss or indeed be warded with them.

Boundaries:

We are aware of Burston's submissions regarding the Durbridge Hill area, which we wish to dispute. While their suggestions regarding the A140 seem eminently sensible, keeping to the main road as the boundary, they have deviated from this principle with our boundary. Our boundaries to the east is defined by a major road and should remain so.

Residents:

Residents are encouraged to speak and ask questions at our meetings and are not restricted to a specific time slot like some other more formal councils. We regularly ask for volunteers to attend other meetings, e.g. two of our residents attended the recent Norfolk Police presentation at Long Stratton. We have also held a Garden Party for residents to gender community spirit. The recent improvements with the South Norfolk Council website is now helping us to deliver services.

We understand that our parish fought for almost 10 years prior to formation to become a separate parish and that we were the first parish to be formed after the formation of South Norfolk District Council. We also believe that our parish has met all aspirations and requirements with minimum funding and would like to continue in this way.

I shall be away in France from the 9th September until the 2nd October so should you need to contact me at that time, perhaps you would be kind enough to contact the chairman instead.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature is visible above three thick black horizontal bars that redact the name and any contact information.

Correspondent – Heywood Parish

p.s. Because we had considerable difficulty with the on-line survey and could not guarantee that it had been submitted, we have enclosed our responses as the attached hard copy.

Community Governance Review Heywood Parish Meeting

1. Name: [REDACTED]
2. Job title: Correspondent and Chairman
3. Parish: Heywood
4. E-mail address: [REDACTED]
5. Yes – Our parish meetings are always well attended with a hard core of residents, normally more than 10% of electors. We are attempting to increase this by targeting areas with hand delivered agendas prior to meetings so that we can get a wider parish coverage. Meetings are well documented with action points.
6. Yes – We actually get very few problems but residents are encouraged to bring problems direct to the correspondent or chairman or to meetings for resolution or referral.
7. Yes – Residents keep coming back and attendance at meetings is still improving.
8. Not applicable
9. Not applicable
10. Not applicable – only 175 electors
11. No – We do not have wards.
12. No
13. Not applicable
14. No – Our boundaries were established only 14 years ago with the help of South Norfolk District Council and we do not wish to make any changes whatsoever!
15. The style of our parish meeting meets all of the requirements of our residents, which is shown by their support and attendance at our meetings.
16. These are enclosed in the attached letter.