



COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW OF NEWHALL AND STANTON DRAFT PROPOSALS

A Parish Council is established for the Newhall and Stanton area of the District.

Parish Councils play an important role in terms of community empowerment at the local level and 80% of respondents to the initial consultation indicated that they supported the establishment of a parish council in the area.

Parish councils are set apart from other forms of community governance as they are a democratically elected tier of local government with directly elected representatives, independent of other council tiers and budgets, and possess specific powers for which they are democratically accountable.

The Council has no evidence to suggest that the establishment of a parish council would be detrimental to a cohesive community in which people of different backgrounds get on well together and share a sense of place.

The area of the proposed parish be as per the boundaries shown on the attached plan which accords with the boundaries of the Newhall and Stanton Polling District.

The boundaries accord with those of the polling district of Newhall and Stanton and are therefore considered to be appropriate and easily identifiable.

The Parish Council be named 'Newhall and Stanton Parish Council'.

The Government encourages avoidance of composite names other than in exceptional circumstances where the demands of history, local connections or the preservation of local ties make a pressing case for the retention of distinctive traditional names. However, the Council feels that the name of the parish council should take into account the distinctive areas well known as Newhall and Stanton and the use of just one of those would not accurately reflect the entire proposed area of the parish council.

The Parish Council should use the 'style' of 'Parish' Council, as opposed to the alternative styles of 'Village', 'Neighbourhood' or 'Community' Council.

Existing Parish Councils in the District use the 'style' of 'parish council'. The alternative styles of 'village', 'neighbourhood' or 'community' council were introduced in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and are therefore relatively new. It is felt that using one of these alternative styles in the establishment of a new parish council at this time would potentially lead to confusion of the status of the new council, which should be avoided.

None of the respondents to the initial consultation suggested an alternative style, but in any event, the 'style' of the parish council could easily be changed by any parish council established in the future, if they felt it necessary.

Subject to the establishment of a Parish Council taking effect from 1st April 2017 and the first elections being held in May 2017, the first terms of office of elected Parish Councillors be for the term of two years with the next elections being held in May 2019 and every four years thereafter.

The Council proposes to reduce the initial terms of office of councillors of a new parish council in order that subsequent elections would take place at the same time as that of other such council's in the District.

The number of Parish Councillors to be elected to the Parish Council be set in the range 9 to 16.

The average number of councillors on each parish council within the District is nine.

The Council has noted that the number of parish councillors for each parish council shall not be less than five. The Council does not feel that the number of parish councillors should be more than 10 as it is important that the parish council does not have regular vacancies and in the interests of democracy, elections are contested.

The Parish Council should not be split into separate wards.

The Council does not consider that the size of the proposed parish council necessitates splitting the parish into wards or that the single election of councillors for the parish council would be impracticable or inconvenient. Nor does the Council consider that any areas of the parish council should be separately represented on the Council.



Newhall and Stanton Ward

