

**Teignbridge District Council
Full Council
21 February 2023
Part i / ii**

Community Governance Review for Ogwell Parish

Purpose of Report

To seek approval to:

1. Increase the number of members on Ogwell Parish Council by two.

Recommendation(s)

The Council RESOLVES to:

- (1) Increase the number of members on Ogwell Parish Council by two.

Financial Implications

See section 3, paragraph 3.1
Martin Flitcroft, Chief Finance Officer and Head of Corporate Services
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Legal Implications

See section 3, paragraph 3.2
Paul Woodhead, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
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Risk Assessment

See section 3, paragraph 3.3
Cathy Ruelens, Electoral Services Manager
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Environmental/ Climate Change Implications

See section 3, paragraph 3.4
David Eaton, Environmental Protection Manager
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Report Author

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Executive Member

Councillor Alan Connett

Background Papers

[Community Governance Review Ogwell Parish Council - Teignbridge District Council](#)

[Community Governance Review Ogwell Parish Council - Terms of Reference – Community Governance Review - Teignbridge District Council](#)

[Community Governance Review Ogwell Parish Council - Reviewing the number of parish councillors for Ogwell - Teignbridge District Council](#)

[Community Governance Review Ogwell Parish Council - Draft recommendations for Ogwell Parish. - Teignbridge District Council](#)

1. Introduction/Background

- i. Following an alteration to the boundary between the parishes of Ogwell and Newton Abbot resulting in a 9% increase to the number of electors in Ogwell, Ogwell Parish Council has asked Teignbridge District Council to review the number of Councillors for Ogwell Parish Council and to increase the number from 8 to 10.
- ii. In undertaking these reviews the Electoral Services Manager, in consultation with the Managing Director, was guided by Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, relevant parts of the Local Government

Act 1972 and guidance issued in 2010 by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Local Government Boundary Commission.

2. Review process

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- i. The Parish Council believes that an increase to the number of councillors will enable it to function more effectively.
- ii. As part of the initial consultation, we contacted the relevant district councillors who had no objections to the proposed increase in Parish Councillors.
- iii. During both the initial consultation we have not received any comments from members of the public living in Ogwell parish, or from anyone other than the Parish Council itself which is in support of the recommendations.

3. Implications, Risk Management and Climate Change Impact

3.1 Financial

There is no financial risk to either Teignbridge District Council or Ogwell Parish Council as Parish Councillors do not receive payment.

3.2 Legal

There is no legal risk to Teignbridge District Council or Ogwell Parish Council.

3.3 Risk

Ogwell Parish Council believes that if the number of councillors is not increased the effective running of their parish may be affected and there is likely to be an increase in the number of meetings which are inquorate.

3.4 Environmental / Climate Change

There are no environmental or climate change risks associated with this proposal.

4. Conclusion

There have been no objections received concerning this proposed change, only comments in support of it.

Ogwell Parish Council is best placed to understand the needs of its parish.

Ogwell parish currently has 2,218 registered electors and regard should be given to the following in relation to democratic representation:

- i. Guidance issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in 2010 references research conducted by the Aston Business School Parish and Town Councils in England (HMSO, 1992), which found that the typical parish representing between 501 to 2,500 people had between 6 and 12 councillors.
- ii. The Local Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) states it has no reason to believe this pattern of council size to population has altered significantly since the research was conducted as it broadly reflects the council size range set out in the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) Circular 1126: the Circular suggests that the minimum number of councillors for any parish should be 7.
- iii. The current proposal for Ogwell parish is in line with these recommendations.