

Item 7 (a) – Community Governance Review

The attached report was considered by the Governance Committee, relevant minute extract below:

Governance Committee – 13 March 2014 (Minute 34)

The Electoral Services Manager presented a report which advised Members that District Councils were required to keep parish council governance under review. Representations had been received from Shoreham and Chevening Parish Councils. A Community Governance review of the Sevenoaks District took place in 2012 which provided an opportunity to deal with requests and make recommendations in time for local government elections in May 2015.

Shoreham Parish Council proposed to create an additional ward and the proposal from Chevening Parish Council was to move the properties in Bowzell Green into the Sevenoaks Weald Parish Council. The terms of reference for the Community Governance review will include both proposals.

In response to questions the Electoral Services Manager explained that Chevening and Sevenoaks Weald Parish Councils would be consulted on the Bowzell Green proposal and, because there were cost implications in creating a new ward of Shoreham Parish, all households in the Parish of Shoreham would be written to.

Resolved: That it be **recommended to Council** that

- a) a community governance review be undertaken in the Parish of Shoreham to investigate the creation of a new parish ward;
- b) a community governance review be undertaken to investigate the boundary between the parishes of Chevening and Sevenoaks Weald in the vicinity of Bowzell Green; and
- c) the terms of reference for the review set out in Appendix C to the report be adopted.