

## BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL



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Dear Emma

Bicester Town Council has considered the Cherwell District Community Governance Review – Cherwell District and would like to make the following comments;

1. The enclosed map, produced by WYG as part of the Bicester masterplan, illustrates an indicative revised Bicester boundary (dotted green line). The Bicester Masterplan forms part of the Local Plan and the dotted line corresponds with and includes the larger developments planned for the area.
2. Bicester Town Council notes that Caversfield Parish Council does not want the NW Bicester Eco Development within its boundaries. Bicester Town Council does not know the views of Bucknell Parish Council on the same matter, but would wish to incorporate the whole of the site into the larger Bicester. This would serve to create parity for the residents of the whole site in terms of their Council Tax liability.
3. The SW Bicester, Kingsmere site, currently straddles Chesterton parish and Bicester parish, and to incorporate it into the larger Bicester would create parity for the residents in terms of their council tax liability.
4. The Graven Hill site also straddles a number of different parishes, and should be incorporated into the larger Bicester for reasons as described in points 2 and 3.

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5. The newly drawn boundary also includes the site of RAF Bicester, to the east of the A4421, known as the technical site, a conservation site currently up for development. Bicester Town Council supports the development of this area as a heritage centre.
6. Bicester Town Council's views on the scope of the revised boundaries are in line with a number of strategic documents already in place, ie The One Shared Vision, as well as the emerging Local Plan together with the Bicester Masterplan which forms a separate chapter of the Local Plan.
7. The increased area as outlined on the attached map should comprise of 9 wards (ie 4 additional wards) of 3 – 5 elected members each depending of numbers of electorate , resulting in a total town council of 27 - 36 elected members in total.
8. However, in the shorter term, prior to the 2015 elections, the ward representation should be increased to provide a council of 20 councillors, representing the existing 5 wards with any additional residents within the existing boundary included accordingly.

Bicester Town Council looks forward to hearing from you in due course and to the final outcomes of the review.

Yours sincerely

**Sue Mackrell**  
**Chief Officer**

Attached: Map

