



Cherwell
DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

The Householder

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29 June 2020

Dear Resident

Possible split of Adderbury Parish into two new Parishes – please tell us what you think

Cherwell District Council (CDC) has received a petition from West Adderbury Residents Association, signed by 188 electors in the parish, requesting that consideration be given to separating the existing parish into two. We are therefore writing to every household in the parish, to explain what we have been asked to consider and to get the views of residents.

It is very important at this stage to be clear that it is not a foregone conclusion that the split will take place. Under the regulations relating to parish matters, when a valid petition is received the local council, CDC in this case, has to carry out a review. The views of local residents are an important part of the review process, and this first consultation stage will help CDC to find out what residents across the Parish think of the suggestion.

What would this split mean?

A split would create two parishes in Adderbury, and a new Parish Council would be formed.

When a new Parish Council is formed, in order to be able to carry out its functions the new Parish Council would have the power to decide whether or not to levy a precept.

What are Parish Councils?

Parish councils make local decisions and introduce policy that is relevant to the public interest of the parish. This is done at meetings of the Parish Council, by Parish Councillors who are elected to serve for a four year term. Parish Councillors are unpaid. The existing Adderbury Parish Council has 12 Parish Councillors. If the Parish is split into two, each Parish Council would have its own Parish Councillors (numbers to be determined)

Parish Councils represent the local community, for example, by providing responses to planning or licensing consultations, they also deliver services to meet local needs and

improve the quality of life and community well-being. Parish councils have powers to provide and maintain a variety of important local services, such as allotments, burial grounds, bus shelters, open spaces and village halls.

Parish councils are funded by a “precept” which forms part of the council tax residents pay. Cherwell District Council collects the precept on behalf of Adderbury Parish Council and gives this money to the Parish Council who use it to support its operations and carry out local projects. The precept that each household pays depends on which Band of Council Tax you fall into. For a Band D property in Adderbury the amount paid in 2020/2021 is £36.98 for the year. The Parish Council review this amount every year.

Where would the parish be split?

The map on page 4 shows the current parish boundary. As part of the submitted petition, West Adderbury Residents Association suggested that the Sor Brook be used as a boundary line, as shown on page 5. Historically, there was an East and West Adderbury, with the Sor Brook being used as the boundary line. During the 1970s the parish was brought together, along with Twyford, to form the current parish of Adderbury. When a new boundary is considered, it needs to be something physical that is easy to identify, for example a road, hedge or a river.

There are no plans to make any amendments to the external parish boundary. As Adderbury sits on the county border with Northamptonshire it would not be possible to make any amendments to the border with King’s Sutton. No request has been made to review the neighbouring boundaries with Banbury, Bodicote, Milton, Barford St John and St Michael or Deddington.

Will the amount of Council Tax I pay change?

It might do. If the split goes ahead, both Parish Councils would need to decide how much money they need to raise via their precepts, collected as part of your Council Tax bill, to help run their respective parishes. Therefore, whichever parish you live in, your Council Tax bill could go up or down.

Currently, Adderbury Parish Council can spread its running costs across the whole parish. Should there be a separation into two parishes, there would be fewer properties to meet these costs, however there might be fewer services to provide. For example, if the parish council currently mows the grass in open spaces, insures bus shelters and pays someone to empty dog bins, and half of these assets were located in the new parish area, the new parish council would take responsibility for providing the services in their area.

What would the name of the parishes be?

If the parish was separated, consideration would also need to be given to the names of these parishes. It is not possible for both parishes to be called Adderbury, as this would cause confusion for residents as well as Royal Mail, utility companies, delivery companies and the emergency services.

West Adderbury Residents Association have suggested in their petition that the new area be called West Adderbury. The remaining area could be called East Adderbury, or East Adderbury and Twyford, this would also need to be decided.

Please let us know if you have any other name suggestions.

It is possible that your postal address could change slightly to reflect the names of the parishes, but there would be no change to postcodes.

What else could change?

If two new parishes were created, it would be necessary for Cherwell District Council to find a new building to be used as a polling station in the West Adderbury area, as the Institute and Adderbury Methodist Church (the regular venues used for elections) would be outside the new parish area.

What happens now?

Cherwell District Council is consulting every household in Adderbury to ensure that everybody in the parish has an opportunity to give their views.

On page 7 you will find a reply slip. Please take a few minutes to fill this in and return it using the envelope supplied. You don't need to use a stamp as Cherwell District Council will pay the postage.

Alternatively, you can reply electronically. You can visit our webpage www.cherwell.gov.uk/communitygovernance and click on the link to answer the questions through an online version of the reply slip, or send an email to democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk.

All written or emailed responses should reach us by Friday 28 August 2020 to be taken into consideration. The online survey will close at 11:59pm on the same date.

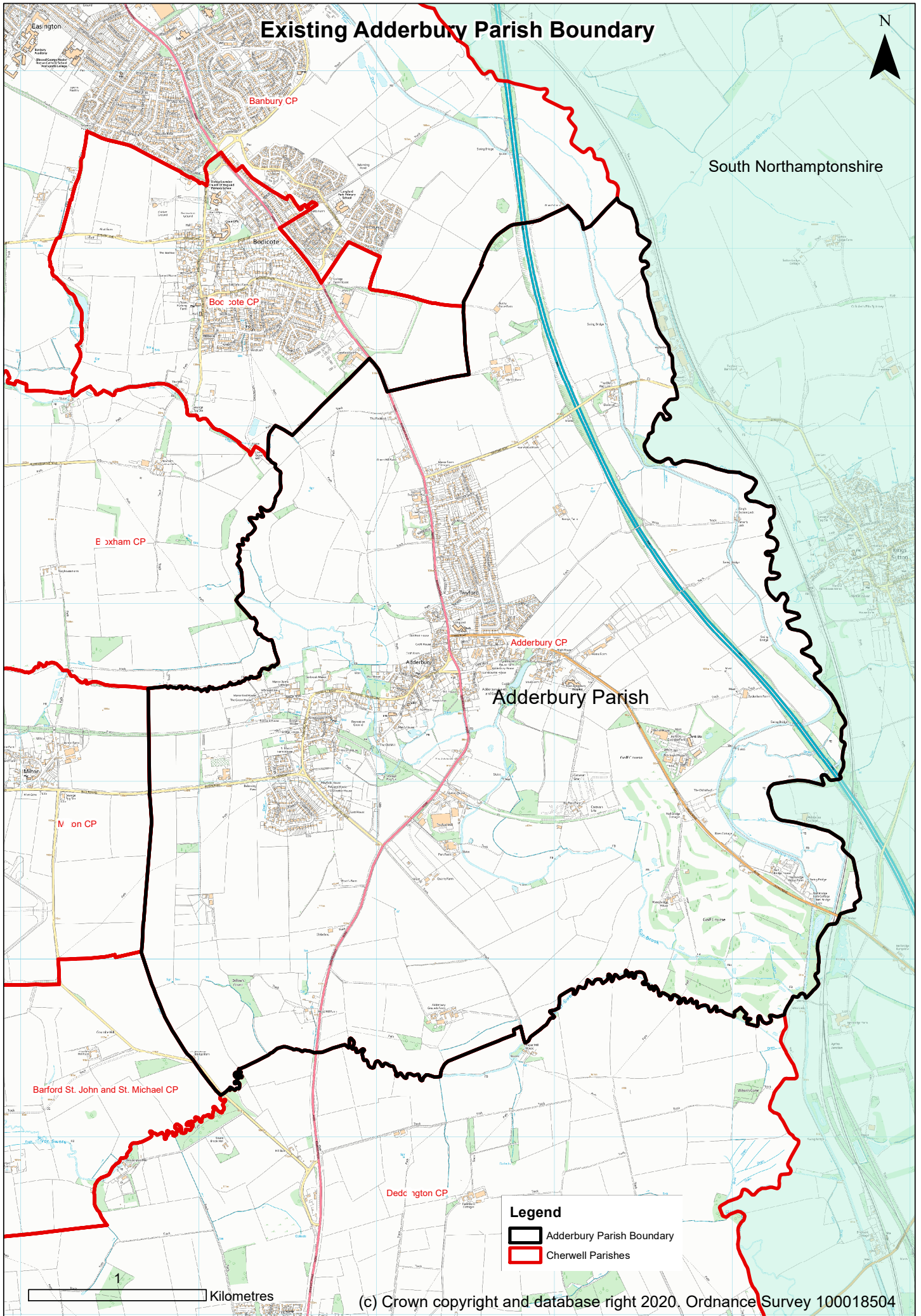
Responses will be considered by a working group of District Councillors, who will come up with a set of recommendations to be considered by full Council in October 2020. There will then be a second consultation on proposals for the area.

Yours sincerely,

Democratic and Elections Team
Cherwell District Council

If you require this document in a different format (such as a large print version or special access facilities) please contact the Democratic and Elections Team, democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

All information collected through this consultation will be treated appropriately to conform with data protection legislation. The Council has to publish all comments received in connection with a community governance review. If we receive a comment on behalf of a group, such as a parish council, political party or disability access group, we will name the group, but we will not publish the names of individuals who have commented.



Existing Adderbury Parish Boundary

South Northamptonshire

Adderbury Parish

Legend

- Adderbury Parish Boundary
- Cherwell Parishes

1 Kilometres

DRAFT - Proposed West Adderbury Parish Boundary



South Northamptonshire

Barbury CP

Bodcote

Bodcote CP

Easingham CP

Remain as Adderbury Parish

Adderbury CP



New West Adderbury Parish

Milton CP

Barford St John and St Michael CP

Deddington CP

Legend

-  Proposed West Adderbury Parish Boundary (as April 2020)
-  Cherwell Parishes

1 Kilometers

**Adderbury Community Governance Review –
Tell us what you think of these suggestions**

Name.....
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.....

Address.....
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We will not share your name and address with anyone, we have only asked for these details so that we can monitor which areas of the parish have replied. If you would prefer, you can just tell us the street you live on, or just state 'Adderbury'.

Do you think it is a good idea for Adderbury parish to be split in two?

Yes

No

Please give brief reasons for your answer

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If you agree that it is a good idea, do you agree with the proposed boundary location as shown on the map?

Yes

No

If you answered no, please give a brief description of where the boundary could be

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If two parishes were to be created, what do you think they should be called?

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Do you have any further comments to make? (feel free to use the reverse side of the paper)

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