

Report to: Cabinet



Date of Meeting 5 January 2022

Document classification: Part A Public Document

Exemption applied: None

Review date for release N/A

Broadhembury Parish Council – Community Governance Review

Report summary:

To report back on representations received and to recommend publication of proposals that the number of parish councillors be increased from 9 to 12

Is the proposed decision in accordance with:

Budget Yes No

Policy Framework Yes No

Recommendation:

That having considered the representations received, Cabinet confirm that proposals be published recommending that the number of parish councillors for Broadhembury be increased from 9 to 12, such increase to come into effect for the May 2023 elections.

Reason for recommendation:

Having carried out initial consultation with regard to the parish councils request it is apparent that there is strong community support for this proposal

Officer: Mark Williams CEO

Portfolio(s) (check which apply):

- Climate Action and Emergency Response
- Coast, Country and Environment
- Council and Corporate Co-ordination
- Democracy, Transparency and Communications
- Economy and Assets
- Finance
- Strategic Planning
- Sustainable Homes and Communities
- Tourism, Sports, Leisure and Culture

Equalities impact Low Impact

Climate change Low Impact

Risk: Low Risk;

Links to background information [Cabinet report 14 July 2021](#) item 30

Link to [Council Plan](#)

Priorities (check which apply)

- Better homes and communities for all
 - A greener East Devon
 - A resilient economy
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Report in full

At its meeting on the 14 July Cabinet recommended, and Council subsequently approved, a Community Governance Review for Broadhembury. This review followed a request from the Parish Council that the number of Parish Councillors be increased from 9 to 12.

Initial submissions from the community have now been invited and details are set out in the attached appendix.

It is apparent that there is strong support from the community for the proposal, including from existing members and officers of the parish council. In addition the local MP, Neil Parish, has also confirmed his support. There was only one representation disagreeing with the proposal and this was on the basis that historically all the parish councillors have been elected unopposed/co-opted because there have been insufficient numbers of people standing for election.

In the light of the representations received it is apparent that the statutory test has been met and it is therefore recommended that a draft proposal is prepared and published confirming that the number of parish councillors for Broadhembury be increased from 9 to 12.

Financial implications:

None arising

Legal implications:

As set out in the report and background papers.