Community Governance Review of Parish Council Arrangements within the Borough of Slough

Resolved –

(a)   Britwell Parish Council

1.   That the report and anticipated position of how the facilities and services provided or supported by Britwell Parish Council will be supported and developed in the event of their abolition be noted.

2.   That Britwell Parish Council be abolished with effect from 1st April, 2019.

3.   That Officers work with Britwell Parish Council on the transfer of assets and liabilities to Slough Borough Council in line with the timetable set out at paragraph 6.

4.   That the timetable of consequential actions set out at paragraph 6 be endorsed

5.   That the Director of Finance and Resources take all necessary actions, to give effect to the Council's decision.

(b)   Wexham Court Parish Council

1   That the anticipated position of how the facilities and services provided or supported by Wexham Court Parish Council will be supported and developed in the event of their abolition be noted.

2   That Wexham Court Parish Council be abolished with effect from 1st April, 2019.

3   That Officers work with Wexham Court Parish Council on the transfer of assets and liabilities to Slough Borough Council in line with the timetable set out in paragraph 6.

4   That the timetable of consequential actions set out at paragraph 6 be endorsed.

5   That the Director of Finance and Resources take all necessary actions to give effect to the Council's decision.

(c)   That no other parish be constituted.

(d)   Britwell Playing Fields

   That the Council recognise that the open land forming part of the Britwell Community Centre has been dedicated in perpetuity for use as a public playing field and recreational ground to include a children's play centre, sports hall and other community recreation facilities and that use of it is subject to advice from, and no building on this land, or disposal of it, is permissible without, the consent of the National Playing Fields Association ("FIT").

(e)   Open Space and Allotments at Junction of Uxbridge Road and Church Lane

That the Council recognise that the allotment holders at the allotments at the junction of Uxbridge Road and Church Lane have statutory rights and protections in respect of their tenures under the Allotment Acts and that development of such land is subject to planning law and guidance and that disposal of such land requires the consent of and is subject to guidance issued by the Secretary of State which includes requirements for alternative provision. The Council also recognises that all of the Parish Council land is currently designated as public open space and as such is protected from development by Core Policy 2 (Green Belt and Open Spaces) which states: 'existing private and public open spaces will be preserved and enhanced. Where, exceptionally, it is agreed that an open space may be lost a new one, or suitable compensatory provision will be required to be provided elsewhere'.

(f)   Honouring Bookings

That the Council agrees that all booking contracts and agreements in force before the abolition date have full force and effect against the Council for the proceeding year. The Council will also undertake a review, during the first financial year following abolition, seeking to provide Parish Discounts on all Council Bookings for Parish Groups in the future.

(g)   Transition

That the Council will actively liaise and co-operate with the Clerks to the Parishes and their Responsible Finance Officers to ensure a smooth transfer of the Parish Councils' functions and operations to the Council and invite the Parish Councils to do likewise. Slough Borough Council will also provide a named contact to manage transition relationships with the Parish councils and co-ordinate facilities, legal and budgeting handover arrangements.

(h)   Capital Works

That the Council will honour all existing capital works agreed within Britwell and Wexham Court Parishes' capital programmes and recorded/minuted in official Parish Council decisions, where these works have been identified in current budget allocations