



Community Governance Review

May 2022

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Introduction and context

Terms used in this report

1. “Parish council” includes a parish council which has the status of a town council, or which uses the style “village council”, “community council” or “neighbourhood council”¹.
2. “Guidance” is used to mean the government guidance on community governance reviews issued in 2008 and most recently revised in 2010.
3. When this report refers to new borough wards, it means the revised wards for Fylde Council recommended by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England in 2021 and which are due to take effect in 2023.
4. In this report, ‘adjustment’ is used to refer to a possible change that has come under consideration at some time during the review process, ‘proposal’ is used to refer to an adjustment that was put to the community consultation and ‘recommendation’ is used to refer to a change that is recommended to the council by this report.
5. Where the context allows, “review” is used to mean this community governance review, and “the 2010 review” means the community governance review carried out by the council in 2010.

The 2007 act and the guidance

6. A community governance review is a review of the pattern of parishes and parish councils in the whole or part of a district. A community governance review can consider matters such as creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes; names of new parishes; electoral arrangements; and the grouping or de-grouping of parishes. The legal framework for reviews is set out in part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. A review cannot make changes that would affect the external boundaries of the district. Nothing in a review can change the electoral arrangements of the district or county council.
7. The Secretary of State has published guidance on how community governance reviews should be carried out, in conjunction with the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. The guidance, though not revised since 2010, represents the current thinking of the Government about the role and importance of parish councils. The guidance makes it clear that the Government intends parish councils to play an important and increasing role in community governance. Parish councils are seen as pivotal in enabling communities to express their views

¹ All references to parishes are to civil, not ecclesiastical, parishes. The review does not affect ecclesiastical parishes.

and aspirations. The guidance also envisages parish councils playing an increasing part in providing services in their areas. However, the guidance recognises that smaller parish councils would be unlikely to be able to take on the burden of service provision.

The Fylde Review

8. District councils undertake community governance reviews and decide whether to give effect to recommendations made in them. This review was directed by a decision of Fylde's council meeting on 19 October 2020. The terms of reference of the review were to consider whether to create a parish council or councils to cover the unparished area of the district, and to recommend changes to boundaries of existing parishes having regard to the guidance to "*put in place strong boundaries, tied to firm ground detail, and remove anomalous parish boundaries*"².
9. The previous review was in 2010. That review recommended increasing the number of councillors for St Annes on the Sea Town Council, setting up parish councils in Lytham and Ansdell, and making fifteen other boundary adjustments between existing parishes. Only the first of these recommendations was progressed.
10. Neither the statutory background nor the guidance has changed since the 2010 review. This review therefore revisited the unprogressed recommendations from the 2010 review, as well as considering a small number of possible changes that were not part of the 2010 review. The focus of the review has been on the reflection of local identity and aspiration and the correction of anomalous boundaries as supported by the guidance.
11. The terms of reference for the review did not include merger or abolition of parish councils, so that possibility was not actively considered. However, there is reason to be concerned about the continued viability and sustainability of some parish councils in the borough.
12. Parish councils rely heavily on the time, commitment and energy of their councillors. Contested elections to parish councils in Fylde are the exception rather than the norm. At the 2019 parish elections, seats were only contested at three out of the fifteen parish councils. This compares with seven in 2015 and just one in 2011. This means that seats are routinely filled by co-option (that is, councillors are chosen by existing councillors), or remain unfilled.

² See paragraph 85 of the Guidance
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13. Parish councils are intended to be representative of their communities. It is difficult to argue that a parish council where no seat has been contested for at least fifteen years (as is the case at seven parish councils in Fylde) fulfils that representative role. There is also additional pressure on parish councillors where seats are unfilled. A future review (which should be in ten to ten to fifteen years' time) might usefully consider whether community governance could be strengthened by combining parishes which routinely struggle to attract candidates for election.

The process of the review

Review stages

14. The review was carried out in three stages. The first stage was identifying adjustments for stakeholder consultation. The second stage was the stakeholder consultation with parish councils and borough councillors. The third stage was community consultation.
15. Twenty adjustments were identified before the stakeholder consultation. However, not all of these were taken forward to the stakeholder consultation. This was because of the review of electoral arrangements for Fylde Borough Council carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England ('LGBCE') in 2021. The LGBCE review will result in new wards and ward boundaries applying to elections to Fylde Borough Council from 2023. Parish boundaries do not need to follow borough council ward boundaries. But it would be undesirable to make changes to parish boundaries which would take effect at the same time as changes to borough council ward boundaries and which would be inconsistent with those changes. Ten of the adjustments to parish boundaries identified in the first stage of the review process would have resulted in such inconsistencies and were not taken forward to the stakeholder consultation.³

Stakeholder consultation

16. The stakeholder consultation was carried out by email with all parish councils and borough councillors whose areas were affected by proposed changes. Nine adjustments were included in the stakeholder consultation. Two of the adjustments were not taken forward after considering the responses to the stakeholder consultation. Seven adjustments went forward

³ The changes not taken forward because of inconsistency with the borough council ward boundaries that will apply from 2023 are recommended for consideration in a future community governance review and are listed in appendix 1. Any changes made by a future community governance review (which would be expected to take place in ten to fifteen years' time) could then be taken into account by LGBCE in any subsequent review by them of borough council ward boundaries.

as proposals to the community consultation.

Community consultation

17. The community consultation was open between 10 March and 8 April 2022. The consultation was publicised by social media and on the council's website. Available channels for responses were by email to a dedicated mailbox, by post and by completion of a on online questionnaire prepared using Microsoft Forms. 97 responses were received through the online questionnaire. No responses were received by email or by post.
18. Responders to the questionnaire were asked whether they lived in Fylde and, if so, in which part. 96 responders (99%) stated that they lived in the borough. Of these, 51 (53%) said that they lived in Lytham and 35 (36%) identified as living in Ansdell or Fairhaven. Only eight responders (8%) said that they lived in a part of the borough outside Lytham, Ansdell or Fairhaven. This reflects the fact that the proposals covered by the community consultation included only minor boundary changes to areas outside Lytham and Ansdell.
19. The questionnaire allowed responders to choose which one or more of the proposals they wanted to engage with. 92 responders (95%) engaged with the proposals to establish a parish council or councils to cover the presently unparished area. By contrast, no other proposal attracted more than four responses.
20. The next section of this report will analyse the responses to the seven proposals that were specifically consulted on in the community consultation.
21. Responders were also asked if they thought that the review should make any other changes to parish boundaries or community governance arrangements (an example was given of the boundary between Kirkham and Newton with Clifton which a stakeholder had suggested should be moved to bring new housing at Dowbridge into the area of Kirkham Town Council.) Most respondents who answered the question thought that no other changes should be made, or indicated they had no view. Other comments were:

"Parish Councils only want more revenue from residents, rates are high enough already."

"Probably just keep an eye on how far towards Lytham the new housing developments in Warton come, ie will the Birchwood development be classed as Lytham?"

"The St Anne's area is getting bigger with developments at Queensway and Clifton Dr Nth so perhaps more councillors are needed."

“Can Fylde council be removed too, with the things it covers managed at Lancashire level (which they seem to for the important things, bins, schools, roads). There must be plenty of savings there.”

“As long as you don’t inflict a parish council on me I don’t care.”

“Do not allow stub standard houses to be built. We need more quality affordable housing for sale or rent!”

“That is up to the residents of that area”

“What a load of cobblers about nothing. Stop wasting your time with this trash and get the rubbish off my street and clear up the waste and fix the roads instead of messing around with this nonsense” [Response edited for offensiveness]

Overview of proposals

22. The following sections of the report set out the proposals which were the subject of the community consultation. They set out the details of each proposal, the consultation responses and the conclusions reached in relation to them. The formal recommendations that flow from those conclusions are drawn together [later in the report](#).
23. Each proposal is given a unique identifier (for example, “A1”) and, where appropriate, is illustrated with a map.

Proposal A1: A new parish council for Ansdell and Fairhaven

Details of proposal

24. The proposal is for the creation of a new parish of Ansdell and a new parish council for that parish.
25. The part of the urban area of Lytham St Annes not included in the parish of St Annes on the Sea is Fylde's only unparished area. The unparished area consists of the connected communities of Lytham and Ansdell (including Fairhaven). The population of Ansdell is 7,756⁴.
26. Ansdell is, by any measurement, a large enough community to be able to sustain a parish council. A parish council covering nearly 8,000 people would be one of the largest in the borough by population. A parish council for Ansdell would be "effective and convenient" in that it would be viable in terms of providing at least some local services, and easy to reach and accessible to local people⁵.
27. Ansdell is mainly Victorian in origin. It has a distinct local centre focused on Woodlands Road, serving the locality. Though undoubtedly part of the wider urban area of Lytham St Annes, Ansdell has its own distinct sense of place. The revitalised Ansdell Institute, as well as other local institutions like churches and youth organisations, underpin the local community and show that Ansdell has an identity that is complementary to, but separate from, its neighbours.
28. Despite this, without a parish council Ansdell does not have a permanent, democratically accountable voice that represents the specific interests of the community. This stands in contrast with nearly all of the rest of the borough, including neighbouring St Annes. There does not seem to be a good reason why Ansdell should be at this relative disadvantage in terms of representation. A separate parish council for Ansdell would be the best way of representing its interests and providing a focus for community life in the locality.
29. Proposals elsewhere in this community governance review recommend the formation of a new Lytham parish comprising the new borough wards of Lytham East and Lytham West (see [proposal L1](#)). The remaining unparished part of the borough would comprise the new borough wards of Ansdell & Fairhaven and Park. The proposal would create a new parish of Ansdell comprising those two new borough wards⁶, except as noted in the paragraph below.

⁴ ONS Population estimates for 2020

⁵ See paragraph 63 of the DLUHC Guidance.

⁶ It is noted that there is an incongruity between a borough ward called "Ansdell & Fairhaven" forming part of a parish called "Ansdell", but the naming of borough wards is outside the scope of this review.

30. The exception is the most northerly part of the unparished area, bounded by Moss Sluice. That very rural area has little in common with the urban and suburban character of most of the unparished area and much more similarity to the scattered rural character of neighbouring Westby with Plumpton. This area would be excluded from the new Ansdell parish and incorporated into Westby with Plumpton (see [proposal WS4/1](#)).

31. The new Ansdell parish would therefore consist of the new borough ward of Ansdell & Fairhaven, together with the new borough ward of Park except for the part to the north of Moss Sluice.

32. A new parish council for Ansdell would represent a population of approximately 8,000. Most parish councils representing a population in the range 2,501 to 10,000 have a council size of between 9 to 16 councillors⁷. In Fylde, the closest three existing parish councils by population size to the proposed new council are:

Council	Population ⁸	Number of councillors
Kirkham	8,000	10
Freckleton	6,000	12
Bryning-with-Warton	4,000	9

33. Advice from the National Association of Local Councils, endorsed in the guidance, says that the minimum size for a parish council should be seven, with a maximum of 25. Having regard to this guidance and the size of existing parish councils in Fylde, the new parish council is recommended to have a council size of ten and to be divided into two parish wards, based on the new borough wards, with each electing five parish councillors.

34. The review must recommend a name for each new parish. The new parish could be called “Ansdell” to reflect the name of the most populous and central part of the parish where most services are concentrated. An alternative would be for the new parish to be called “Ansdell and Fairhaven”. The latter would reflect the name of the railway station and acknowledge that parts of the new parish are commonly referred to as “Fairhaven” and that places like Fairhaven Lake and the Fairhaven pub are important within the new parish. On balance, the shorter name “Ansdell” is considered to be preferable. The new parish council could resolve after its formation to change its name if it preferred the longer name.

⁷ See paragraph 63 of the DLUHC Guidance

⁸ 2020 population as estimated by the Office of National Statistics, to the nearest thousand
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35. The review is also required to recommend whether a new parish council should have one of the alternative styles of “neighbourhood council”, “village council” or “community council”. The alternative styles were introduced by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. No existing parish council in Fylde has taken up any of the alternative styles. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the alternative styles have had minimal use across the country.
36. It is not proposed that the new parish council for Ansdell should have one of the alternative styles. This means that the new council would be known as “Ansdell Parish Council”⁹.

Stakeholder consultation

37. Ward councillors whose wards include the area and who responded to the consultation were in favour of the creation of a parish council for Ansdell. One borough councillor felt that the new Ansdell parish should comprise only the new borough council ward of Ansdell and Fairhaven, with Park ward (excluding the part north of Moss Sluice) instead forming part of a new Lytham parish. Alternatively, the councillor suggested that only the part of Park ward to the west of Blackpool Road should fall within the new Ansdell parish, with the rest of Park ward (except as above) forming part of a new Lytham parish. These suggestions were taken forward into the community consultation as alternatives to the main proposal.

Community consultation

38. The consultation asked:

Do you think that there should be parish councils for Lytham and Ansdell?

92 responders answered that question. Of those:

65 (71%) answered “Yes, there should be separate parish councils for Ansdell and Lytham”.

6 (7%) answered “Yes, there should be one parish council to cover Lytham and Ansdell”

19 (21%) answered “No, there should not be parish councils for Lytham and Ansdell”

1 (1%) answered “I don’t know”

⁹ The new council could decide itself to adopt one of the alternative styles. It could also pass a resolution under section 245 of the Local Government Act 1972 to have the status of a town and would then be known as “Ansdell Town Council”.

1 (1%) ticked "other" and wrote: *"I remain to be convinced of the need for an extra level of bureaucracy, but do feel we need our voices to be heard. My concern is it becomes a costly talking shop with precious little to show for it"*

39. The consultation asked:

If there were to be separate parish councils for Ansdell and Lytham, do you agree that Lytham East and Lytham West wards should be in Lytham parish and Park and Ansdell and Fairhaven wards should be in Ansdell parish?

88 responders answered that question. Of those:

57 (65%) answered "Yes"

13 (15%) answered "No, it would be better if Park ward was also in Lytham parish instead of being in Ansdell"

16 (18%) answered: "No, it would be better if the part of Park ward east of Blackpool Road was also in Lytham parish instead of being in Ansdell"

2 (2%) ticked "other".

One wrote *"As an expatriate I don't feel it is appropriate for me to comment, but from the map St Cuthbert's, Lytham's Parish Church, seems to be located in Ansdell. This is obviously ridiculous, but I wasn't certain as the map was a little indistinct when I tried to zoom in. If it is located in your definition of Ansdell then that needs correcting, if not then fine."* [N.B. St Cuthbert's Church lies in the new Lytham West ward, so would fall within a Lytham Parish, not Ansdell.]

Another wrote: *"No parish councils."*

40. The consultation asked:

Is ten the right number of councillors for a new Ansdell parish council?

31 responders answered that question. Of those:

47% answered: About right"

43% answered "Too many"

3% answered "Don't know"

41. The consultation asked:

Is there anything else that you want to say about the proposal to establish new parish councils in Lytham and Ansdell?

Several responders did want to say something else. They said:

Long overdue as Lytham seems to dominate discussion at the moment

More money for the residents to find for Parish Councils. Unnecessary expenditure.

Duplication or expanding the number of parish representatives is a poor idea in the current financial climate.

Duplication or expanding the number of parish representatives is a poor idea in the current financial climate.

Hope all the money raised by extra rates for this does not get spend on high wages for the 10

I think it's a great idea. They both need representation.

What will this cost the ratepayer? We already pay enough rates.

Park is part of Lytham not Ansdell. Don't want to be part of Ansdell.

Given that Ansdell and Fairhaven have developed a strong local community promoting the locality, its only right that the area should be properly recognised.

This is a good idea and depending upon the powers the council was given would allow local people to make decisions on local issues

I would like to know how information from the parish council would be fed into the town council. Would it have its own budget and, if so, who would decide the level of that budget separate to the town council - and indeed county council.

Guidance says pop of 10k should have 16 council but as A&F have a population of 8k you are only suggesting 10 seats ?

I think this is a terrible idea, more councils and councillors equals more council tax which is already high enough. I don't see why we need more bureaucracy when budgets are tight enough and the expense of a small council is already being covered through Fylde which seems local enough for me. I'd be interested to understand who came up with this notion and the rationale behind it. Count me out.

As a parish clerk and responsible financial officer for a parish in the south Lakes I've seen first hand the usefulness of a tier of government closer to the community it serves. We have 7 councillors and any more than that would, in my opinion, reduce efficiency. Also, they need to work in utmost transparency to ensure they don't abuse the fact that a parish precept can't be capped - I've seen examples of increases of over 100% - in a year when many people will find it hard to meet basic bills - just to fund pet projects.

Resources need to be allocated to support local initiatives rather than concentrating on tourist attractions

Under no circumstances should we add an extra level of government at cost to the residents. It should be made clear in the consultation, and it isn't, that there will be an additional cost to the taxpayer for funding this.

Do not want this to happen if this causes an increase to council tax. This is not the right time to make an increase to the cost of living

I have lived in Ansdell for over 80 years where I have been in retail and otherwise involved in the community. In my opinion the village has survived well, mainly because of its community working selectively towards that, for instance in supporting its businesses, schools and churches. We have managed to do this with just three borough councillors who presumably will continue to exist in any new local arrangement.

Question will the 5 new councillors be paid a fee and expenses because the last thing folk need right

now is additional unnecessary costs.

Where i lived before we had a Parish Council, it was invaluable. It was the voice we needed when building work threatened the village., campaigned for necessary traffic calming etc. The parish councillors were known to everyone and more approachable making it feel that everyone had a louder voice.

I think this is much needed.

I do not think that party politics should be allowed in local councils

In reality how much difference would having an Ansdell parish make and how much would it cost per Ansdell household? Will it drive council tax up even higher? We want to unite the local community not divide it with unnecessary geographical and monetary boundaries

It would be a waste of time. We don't need another layer of local government. The local councillors in Ansdell are bad enough at replying to requests for help as it is.

N.B. These were the comments of those who answered the question with reference to Ansdell and Fairhaven. The answers of those who answered the same question with reference to Lytham are below: see [paragraph 53](#).

Conclusions

42. A significant majority of the community consultation responses endorse the principle of parish governance in the Ansdell area. Most responders prefer separate parish councils for Ansdell and Lytham to a single parish council for the combined area. While 33% of responders would prefer some or all of Park ward to be in Lytham instead of Ansdell, 65% were happy with the whole of urban Park ward being included in Ansdell.
43. Views were evenly split about the number of parish councillors that should comprise the new parish council. While about half of the respondents felt that ten was about the right number, an almost equal number felt it was too many.
44. The community consultation responses support the conclusion that a parish council for Ansdell should be set up comprising the two new borough council wards of Park (except for the most northerly part) and Ansdell and Fairhaven and, on balance, that ten would be a suitable number of councillors for the new council. The review therefore recommends the establishment of a parish council for Ansdell as described. The formal recommendations are later in the report.

Proposal L1: A new parish council for Lytham

Details of proposal

45. The proposal is for the creation of a new parish of Lytham and a new parish council for that parish.
46. The part of the urban area of Lytham St Anne's not included in the parish of St Anne's on the Sea is Fylde's only unparished area. The unparished area consists of the connected communities of Lytham and Ansdell (including Fairhaven). The population of Lytham is 9,044¹⁰.
47. Lytham, like Ansdell, is comfortably a large enough community to be able to sustain a parish council. A parish council covering more than 9,000 people would be the second largest in the borough by population. A parish council for Lytham would be "effective and convenient" in that it would be viable in terms of providing at least some local services, and easy to reach and accessible to local people¹¹.
48. People in Lytham are proud of their local area. Local groups such as the Civic Society work to preserve and maintain the built environment and heritage. Others like Park View 4U have engaged and energised the local community to provide public amenities. Campaign groups have mobilised the local population in opposition to development proposals that have been perceived as threatening to the character of the area.
49. Despite the successes and commitment of local groups and campaigns such as these, without a parish council Lytham does not have a permanent, democratically accountable voice that represents the specific interests of the town. This stands in contrast with nearly all of the rest of the borough, including St Annes, which forms part of the same contiguous urban area. There does not seem to be a good reason why Lytham should be at this relative disadvantage in terms of representation. A parish council would fill this democratic deficit.
50. The unparished area presently comprises the new borough wards of Lytham East and Lytham West, together with Ansdell & Fairhaven and Park. It is notable that, apart from a very small-scale change around Church Road, the western boundary of the new Lytham West borough ward has been left unchanged by the 2021 review of borough wards. This is unsurprising, as the boundary runs for the most part through open land dividing Lytham from surrounding communities. It is recommended that the western boundary of Lytham parish should reflect

¹⁰ ONS population estimates for 2020.

¹¹ See paragraph 63 of the guidance

that pattern and be coterminous with the boundary of the new Lytham West borough ward, The new Lytham parish would therefore comprise the new Lytham East and Lytham West borough wards.

51. A new parish council for Lytham would represent a population of approximately 9,000. The matters discussed in [paragraphs 29](#) and 30 in relation to Ansdell apply equally to Lytham. The proposal is therefore that the new parish council should have a council size of ten, that it be divided into two parish wards, coterminous with the new borough wards and with each parish ward electing five parish councillors.

52. For the same reasons as set out in [paragraph 32](#), it is not proposed that the new parish council for Lytham should have one of the alternative styles. This means that the new council would be known as “Lytham Parish Council”¹².

Stakeholder consultation

53. Ward councillors whose wards include the area and who responded to the consultation were in favour of the creation of a parish council for Lytham. As noted in [paragraph 34](#), one councillor put forward two alternative suggestions for the boundary between the proposed new Lytham and Ansdell parishes, which were taken forward as alternatives into the community consultation.

Community consultation

54. As set out in [paragraphs 35](#) and 36, most responders thought that there should be new and separate parish councils for Lytham and Ansdell, and that the boundary between them should be the western boundary of the new Lytham West ward.

55. The consultation also asked:

Is ten the right number of councillors for a new Lytham parish council?

91 responders answered that question. Of those:

55% answered: About right”

23% answered “Too many”

21% answered “Don’t know”

¹² The new council could pass a resolution under section 245 of the Local Government Act 1972 to have the status of a town and would then be known as “Lytham Town Council”.

56. The consultation asked:

Is there anything else that you want to say about the proposal to establish new parish councils in Lytham and Ansdell ?

Several responders did want to say something else. They said:

No thank you
Good if local decisions can be made in a timely manner
Well over due, a parish council can look more closely on the area it covers, things should improve .
Great we are having a PC and can keep a eye on things. We need more lytham people to be involved with its town . We will have more control over maintenance especially
Just that I think it needs to be kept separate from Ansdell and Fairhaven otherwise it becomes unmanageable.
A great idea,I feel that there is not enough active representation or consultation with residents.
A vote would be better as a lot of people are not computer literate
Lytham to have there own
I think separate parish councils is a great idea. Decisions can be made on local issues by local people and hopefully residents can give their input.
Ansdell council could be called Ansdell & Fairhaven to cover both?
I don't agree with the parish councils as this will incur additional costs for council tax payments at a time when inflation and people are facing substantially increased cost of living changes for very little if any benefit to the borough of fylde council.
In favour
[Comments made about an individual councillor]
About time that Lytham had its own Parish / Town Council
Lytham Green and other amenities need to be in the hands of Kygham people!
Lytham badly needs its own parish council to speak for us, the residents. Our voices are often shouted down by voices from Con leadership outside Lytham. St Annes has had its own town council for some years. Why try to split the rest of LSA into 2 parishes? I've lived here since 1953 and, to me, Fairhaven and Ansdell are part of Lytham. The biggest problem today is political bias voting and lack of "people" care from "local" cllrs driven by leadership from St Annes. We need a strong Lytham parish council to stand up for us.
I think 10 would be too unwieldy for such a small area, decisions could be slow to be implemented. Good idea as would give local people a better say in local issues rather than leaving it to a vocal minority such as Heritage Groups (of which I am a member). I think it should be called Community Council.
A Town Council will be of great benefit to the community ,it will enable the community to focus on local projects and local needs...and it will be able to react quickly to events that would affect the community
A lytham parish council would be able to make and solve any problems or changes in the Lytham and the residents would be able to be involved with decisions.
Please have new local election for Lytham, as residents are not happy with current councillors, who seem to represent the needs of Lytham Festival, rather than the residents of Lytham. We've had enough.
There does not appear to be any information here with regard to: How this would be funded How governance/accountability would be achieved
Not sure where Moss Side Lytham FY8 4NY sits in parish council terms?
Publish boundary maps that are clear online

Yes, I see no need for another level of bureaucracy that will cost us more money, don't you think we pay enough money out to you councillors, with the economy in free fall and fuel prices going through the roof ,the last thing we need is to more money out. Running the town is your job, what are you going to be doing when you pass on that responsibility . Just do the job we pay you for and we will not need a extra town council
I do not support the proposal. It is another tier of unwanted government.
Don't want them
About time

N.B. These were the comments of those who answered the question with reference to Lytham. The answers of those who answered the same question with reference to Ansdell and Fairhaven are above: see [paragraph 38](#).

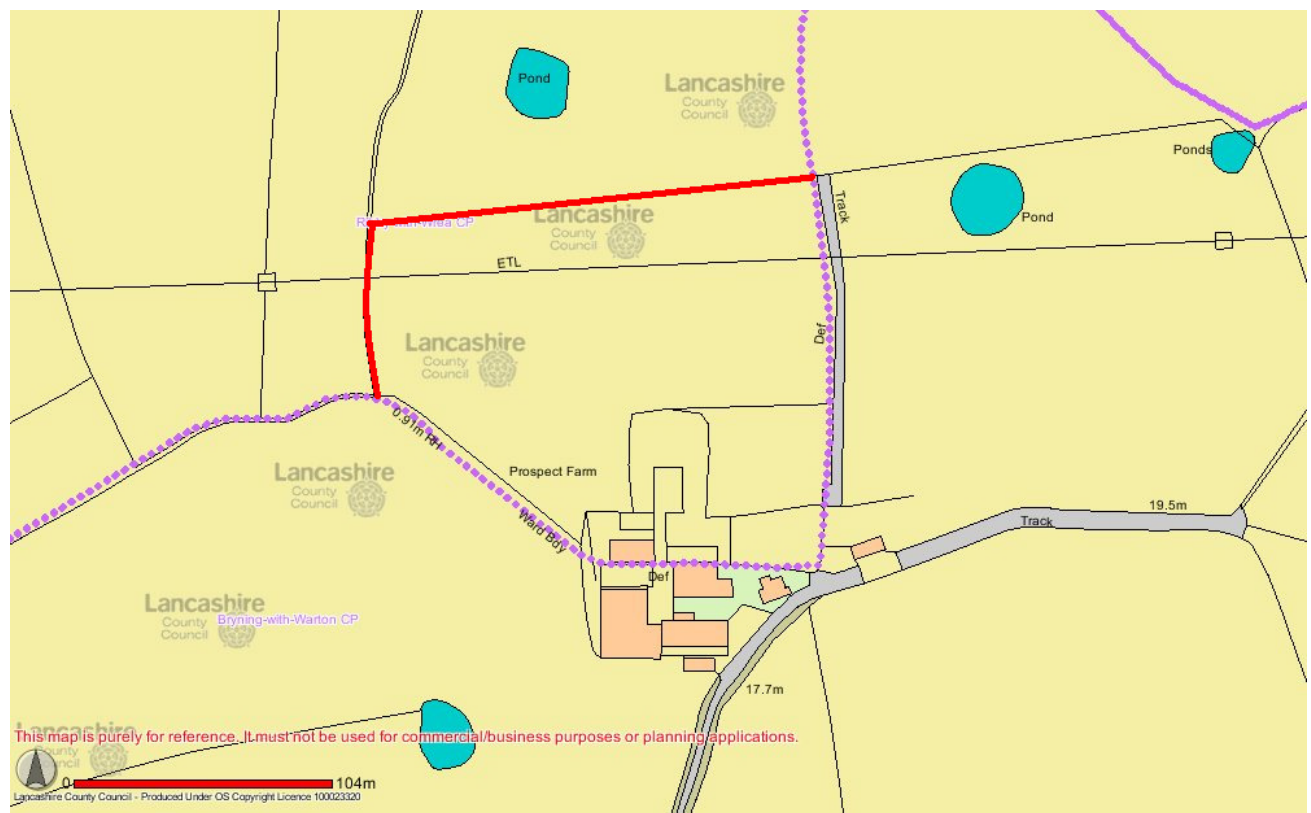
Conclusions

57. A significant majority of the community consultation responses endorse the principle of parish governance in the Lytham area. Most responders prefer separate parish councils for Lytham and Ansdell to a single parish council for the combined area. While 33% of responders would prefer a Lytham parish to include some or all of Park ward, 65% were happy with the whole of urban Park ward being included in Ansdell.
58. A clear majority of those who expressed a view felt that ten was about the right number of parish councillors that should make up the new parish council.
59. The community consultation responses support the conclusion that a parish council for Lytham should be set up comprising the two new borough wards of Lytham East and Lytham West and that ten would be a suitable number of councillors for the new council. The review therefore recommends the establishment of a parish council for Lytham as described. The formal recommendations are [later in the report](#).

Proposal BW2: Adjust the boundary between Bryning with Warton and Ribby with Wrea at Prospect Farm

Details of proposal

60. The proposal was to adjust the boundary between the parish of Bryning with Warton and the parish of Ribby with Wrea to move the boundary to the north of the farm buildings at Prospect Farm. The plan below shows the effect of the proposal, with the current boundary in purple and the proposed boundary in red.



61. The group of farm buildings at Prospect Farm is presently bisected by the parish boundary, which means that they lie partly in Bryning with Warton and partly in Ribby with Wrea. Moving the boundary to the north would bring the whole of the group of buildings into Bryning with Warton.

Stakeholder consultation

62. Neither Bryning with Warton Parish Council nor Ribby with Wrea Parish Council expressed an objection to the proposed change. No adverse comments were received from borough councillors.

Community Consultation

63. Four responders to the community consultation expressed a view on the proposal. All four responders indicated that they were not happy with the proposed change. Three of the responders added further comments, which are set out below:

I presume the farm owners knew of the boundaries when they bought/inherited them, so I would expect them to remain comfortable with the existing boundary.

In line with previous decisions taken regarding new building work against public views why should the council take any notice of our views on these boundary changes?

We are not happy with the way this is being dealt with- As the owner of Prospect farm we feel we should of been consulted of this proposed change before seeing it on social media- it doesn't take much to write a letter and post it or email personally to us as it effects our farm on the idea of a boundary move.

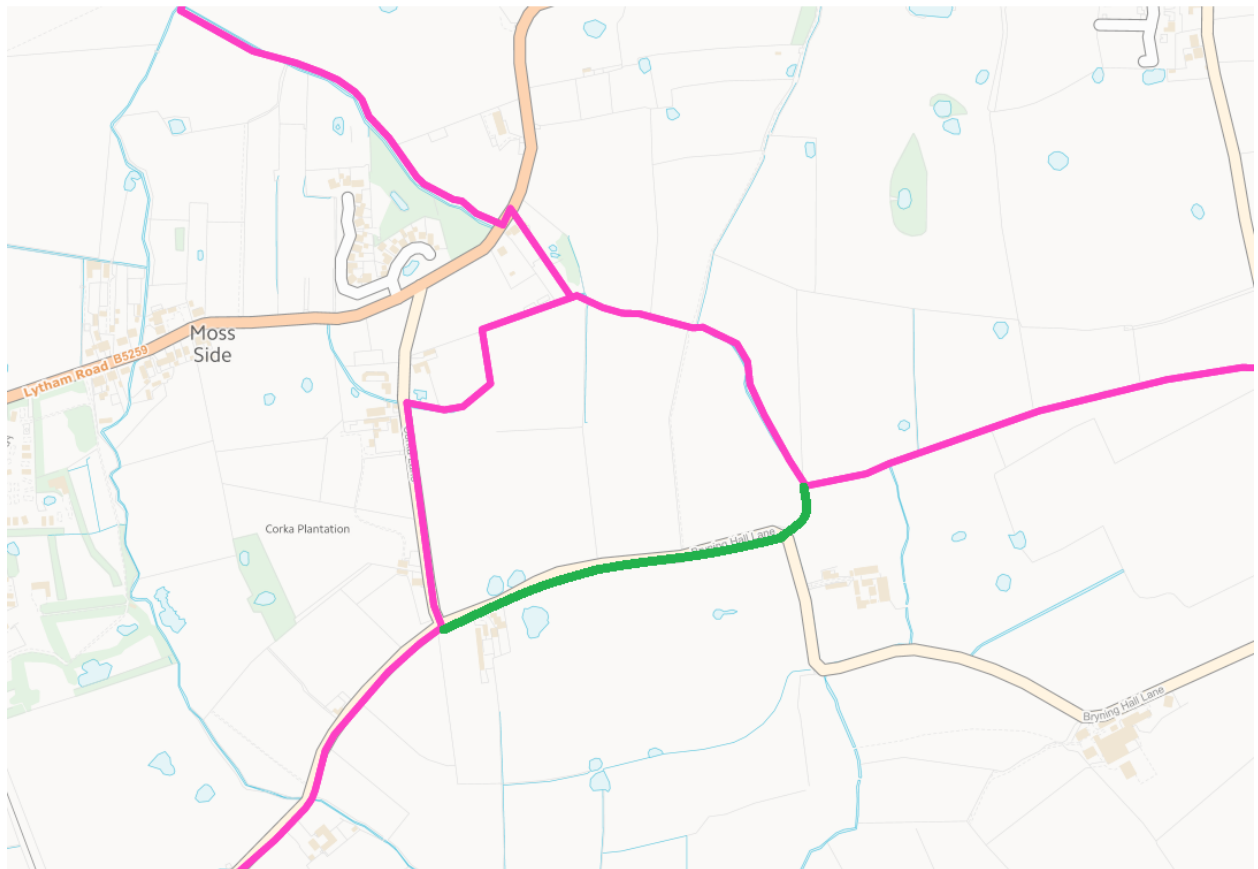
Conclusion

64. In the light of the community consultation responses, the review recommends that the proposal is not proceeded with, and that the boundary stays unchanged.

Proposal BW3: Adjust the boundary between Bryning with Warton and Westby with Plumpton at Bryning Hall Lane

Details of proposal

65. The proposal is to adjust the boundary between the parish of Bryning with Warton and the parish of Westby with Plumpton to align the boundary with Bryning Hall Lane immediately to the west of Corka Lane. The plan below shows the effect of the proposal, with the current boundary in magenta and the proposed boundary in green.



66. The boundary presently follows the line of Bryning Hall Lane before swinging northward along Corka Lane, turning eastward again and then southward. This creates a northward bulge in the boundary, which is anomalous, and which does not reflect any strong ground feature. Making the change would mean that the line of the boundary would be identifiable along the line of Bryning Hall Lane and move the boundary slightly further from the settlement of Moss Side.

Stakeholder consultation

67. Neither Bryning with Warton Parish Council nor Westby with Plumpton Parish Council expressed an objection to the proposed change. No adverse comments were received from

borough councillors.

Community consultation

68. Only one responder in the community consultation expressed a view on the proposal. That responder indicated that they were happy with the proposed change and did not add any further comment.

Conclusion

69. The review recommends that the boundary between Bryning with Warton and Ribby with Wrea is adjusted as proposed. There are no consequential recommendations such as changes to council size or warding.

Proposal E1: Adjust the boundary between Elswick and Little Eccleston with Larbreck at Meagles Farm

Details of proposal

70. The proposal is to adjust the boundary between the parish of Elswick and the parish of Little Eccleston with Larbreck. The boundary would move to the north of the curtilage of the farm buildings of Meagles Farm. The plan below shows the effect of the proposal, with the current boundary in purple and the proposed boundary in red.



71. The curtilage of the farm buildings at Meagles Farm is presently bisected by the parish boundary, which means that it lies partly in Elswick and partly in Little Eccleston with Larbreck. Moving the boundary to the north would bring the whole of the curtilage into Elswick.

Stakeholder consultation

72. Neither Elswick Parish Council nor Little Eccleston with Larbreck Parish Council expressed an objection to the proposed change. No adverse comments were received from borough

councillors.

Community consultation

73. Two responders to the community consultation expressed a view on the proposal. One responder indicated that they were happy with the proposed change, and one indicated that they were not happy with it. One responder added a further comment, which was: *“Leave them as they have been – it seems to be change for change sake”*.

Conclusion

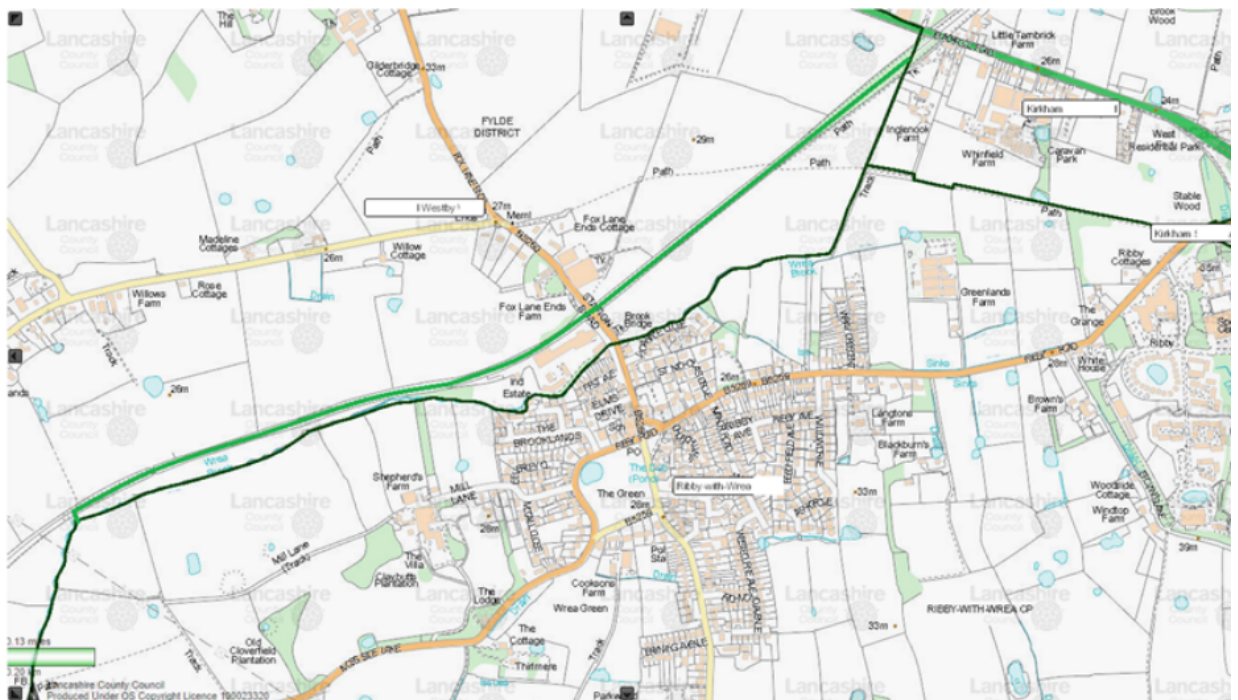
74. The review recommends that the boundary between Elswick and Little Eccleston with Larbreck is adjusted as proposed. There are no consequential recommendations such as changes to council size or warding.

Proposal RW1: Adjust the boundary between Ribby with Wrea and Westby with Plumpton to the north of Wrea Green

Details of proposal

75. The proposal is to adjust the boundary between Ribby with Wrea and Westby with Plumpton.

The boundary would move north-westwards to run along the Preston – Blackpool South railway line instead of along a minor watercourse. The plan below shows the effect of the proposal, with the current boundary in black and the proposed boundary in green.



76. Aligning the boundary to the railway line would tie it to a substantial physical feature which forms a strong, identifiable boundary. It would also bring the industrial buildings to the west of the railway bridge, which are functionally part of the village of Wrea Green, into the parish of Ribby-with-Wrea.

Stakeholder consultation

77. Neither Ribby with Wrea Parish Council nor Westby with Plumpton Parish Council expressed an objection to the proposed change. No adverse comments were received from borough councillors.

Community consultation

78. Two responders to the community consultation expressed a view on the proposal. One responder indicated that they were happy with the proposed change, and one indicated that they were not happy with it. Neither added any further comment.

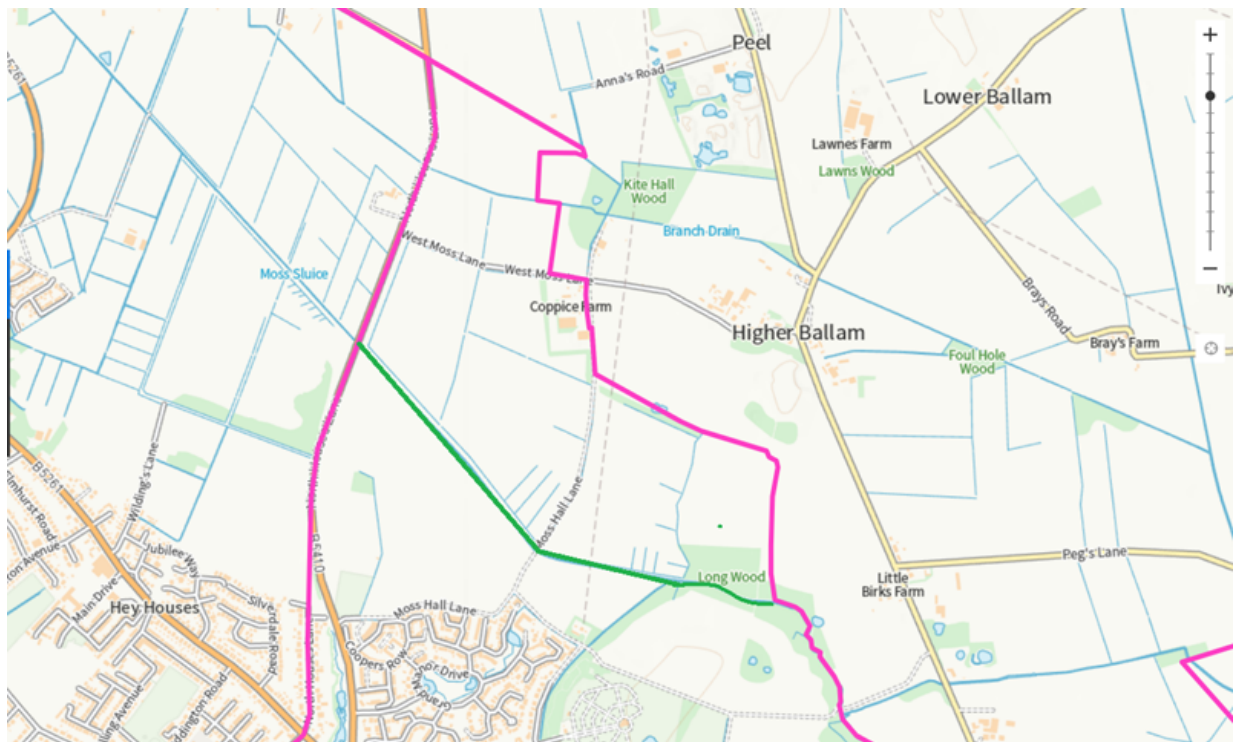
Conclusion

79. The review recommends that the boundary between Ribby with Wrea and Westby with Plumpton is adjusted as proposed. There are no consequential recommendations such as changes to council size or warding.

Proposal WS4/1: Adjust the boundary of Westby with Plumpton to include part of the presently unparished area

Details of proposal

80. The proposal is to adjust the boundary of Westby with Plumpton where it adjoins the presently unparished area. The boundary would move southwards to run along the line of Moss Sluice instead of along field boundaries as at present. The plan below shows the effect of the proposal, with the current boundary in magenta and the proposed boundary in green.



81. The present boundary does not relate to any strong physical feature. The proposed new boundary would be much easier to define on the ground. If the proposals to form new parish councils for [Ansdell](#) and [Lytham](#) are accepted, if the boundary is not adjusted the land between the current boundary and Moss Sluice would either become a small exclave of unparished land or become part of the new parish of Ansdell.

82. Having a small island of unparished land in an otherwise fully-parished borough would be undesirable. The area concerned has much more in common with the rural communities of Westby-with- Plumpton than with the urban and suburban areas covered by the proposed new Ansdell parish.

83. The proposal would result in an inconsistency between the parish council boundary and the boundary between the new borough wards of Park and Wrea Green with Westby. As discussed [elsewhere in this report](#), it is normally preferable for both sets of boundaries to be consistent for the present. However, in this case that preference must be balanced against the undesirability of the new Ansdell parish including at its outset land that is not a natural part of its area and which would be likely to be removed in a future community governance review.
84. In any event, a mechanism exists whereby a request can be made to the Commission for a consequential change to a borough ward boundary to tie it in with a changed parish boundary. The Commission would consider any impact on electoral equality in deciding whether to make a consequential change. In this case, the effect on electoral equality would be almost nothing, as only one dwelling would be affected.

Stakeholder consultation

85. The adjustment as originally put forward would have moved the boundary to the line of West Moss Lane. Westby with Plumpton Parish Council suggested that moving the boundary further south to the line of Moss Sluice would be a better option. No adverse comments on the original proposal were received from borough councillors.

Community consultation

86. Five responders to the community consultation expressed a view on the proposal. Three responders indicated that they were happy with the proposed change and two indicated that they were not sure about it. One responder added a further comment, which was: *"The implications have not been explained"*.

Conclusion

87. On balance, the review concludes that the boundary of Westby with Plumpton should be adjusted as proposed, and that the Commission be asked to change the boundary between the new borough wards of Park and Wrea Green with Westby to tie in with the new parish boundary. There are no consequential recommendations such as changes to council size or warding.

Formal recommendations

Requirement for formal recommendations

88. A community governance review must recommend what new parishes (if any) should be created¹³ in the area covered by the review. If new parishes are to be created, the review must, recommend the names of the new parishes¹⁴, whether they should have a parish council, and whether the parish council should have any of the alternative styles (village council, community council or neighbourhood council)¹⁶.
89. Where a new parish council is recommended to be created, the review must recommend electoral arrangements for the new council¹⁷: this means the number of councillors, whether there should be parish wards, and the areas of, and number of councillors to be returned from, each parish ward.
90. For each existing parish in the review area, the review must recommend whether the parish is to be kept, altered or abolished¹⁸, whether its name should be changed¹⁹, and whether it should continue to have a parish council²⁰.
91. The formal recommendations of the review are set out below. They either flow from the proposals discussed in the first part of the review report or represent the present position where either no changes have been proposed, or changes proposed have not been proceeded with.

¹³ Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, s.87(1).

¹⁴ LGPHA 2007, s.87(5).

¹⁶ LGPHA, s.87(7).

¹⁷ LGPHA s.89(2).

¹⁸ LGPHA, s.88(2).

¹⁹ LGPHA, s. 88(3).

²⁰ LGPHA, s.88(4). If the parish does not have a parish council, the review must recommend whether it ought to have one.

The formal recommendations of the review

Ansdell

No.	Recommendation		
1	Establish a parish comprising the new borough ward of Ansdell and Fairhaven and that part of the new borough ward of Park to the south of Moss Sluice		
2	The new parish should have the name “Ansdell”.		
3	The new parish should have a parish council		
4	The new parish council should not have any of the alternative styles		
5	The council size of the new parish council should be ten councillors		
6	The new parish council should be divided into two parish wards as follows:		
	Name of parish ward	Description	No. of councillors
	Ansdell and Fairhaven	The new borough ward of Ansdell and Fairhaven	Five
	Park	The part of the new borough ward of Park that falls within the new parish	Five

Lytham

No.	Recommendation		
1	Establish a parish comprising the new borough wards of Lytham East and Lytham West		
2	The new parish should have the name “Lytham”.		
3	The new parish should have a parish council		
4	The new parish council should not have any of the alternative styles		
5	The council size of the new parish council should be ten councillors		
6	The new parish council should be divided into two parish wards as follows:		
	Name of parish ward	Description	No. of councillors
	Lytham East	The new borough ward of Lytham East	Five
	Lytham West	The new borough ward of Lytham West	Five

Bryning with Warton

No.	Recommendation
1	Alter the area of the parish by adjusting its boundary with the parish of Westby with Plumpton to align the boundary with Bryning Hall Lane immediately to the west of Corka Lane, as described in proposal BW3
2	Make no change to the name of the parish.

3	The parish should continue to have a parish council
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Elswick

No.	Recommendation
1	Alter the area of the parish by adjusting its boundary with the parish of Little Eccleston with Larbreck to move the boundary to the north of the curtilage of the farm buildings at Meagles Farm, as described in proposal E1
2	Make no change to the name of the parish.
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Freckleton

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish.
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Greenhalgh with Thistleton

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Kirkham

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Little Eccleston with Larbreck

No.	Recommendation
1	Alter the area of the parish by adjusting its boundary with the parish of Elswick to move the boundary to the north of the curtilage of the farm buildings at Meagles Farm, as described in proposal E1
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Medlar with Wesham

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish.
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Newton with Clifton

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Ribby with Wrea

No.	Recommendation
1	Alter the area of the parish by adjusting its boundary with the parish of Westby with Plumpton to align the boundary to the north of Wrea Green, as described in proposal RW1
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

St Annes on the Sea

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Singleton

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish.
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Staining

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Treales, Roseacre and Wharles

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Weeton with Preese

No.	Recommendation
1	The parish should not be abolished, and its area should not be altered
2	Make no change to the name of the parish
3	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Westby with Plumpton

No.	Recommendation
1	Alter the area of the parish by adjusting its boundary with the parish of Bryning with Warton to align the boundary with Bryning Hall Lane immediately to the west of Corka Lane, as described in proposal BW3
2	Alter the area of the parish by adjusting its boundary with the parish of Ribby with Wrea to align the boundary to the north of Wrea Green, as described in proposal RW1
3	Alter the area of the parish by incorporating the area of land to the south of the present boundary and north of Moss Sluice, as described in proposal WS4/1
4	Request the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to adjust the boundary between the new borough council wards of Park and Wrea Green with Westby to tie in with the alteration in 3 above.
5	Make no change to the name of the parish
6	The parish should continue to have a parish council

Appendix: Adjustments not taken forward

92. The review considered several other adjustments, which did not become proposals for the community consultation. Most of those adjustments were not taken forward because of their inconsistency with the new borough ward boundaries, as discussed in [paragraph 12](#). Those adjustments should be considered at a future review.

93. The table below briefly lists and describes the adjustments that were not taken forward into the community consultation. Where the reason for not taking forward the adjustment was other than inconsistency with new ward boundaries, the reason is noted.

Ref	Parishes	Details	Remarks
F1	Kirkham Freckleton	Re-align the boundary to include the Mede in Kirkham instead of Freckleton.	
GT1	Greenhalgh with Thistleton Medlar with Wesham	Align the boundary to the motorway, so Greenhalgh with Thistleton is wholly to the north and Medlar with Wesham wholly to the south of the M55.	
K1	Kirkham Ribby with Wrea	Include the whole of the Ribby Hall complex in Ribby with Wrea, instead of part being in Kirkham.	
K2	Kirkham Newton with Clifton	Include the residential development at Dowbridge in Kirkham instead of Newton with Clifton.	
MW 1	Medlar with Wesham Weeton with Preese	Regularise a zigzag where the boundary crosses Weeton Road three times in a few metres.	
NC1	Newton with Clifton Treales, Roseacre and Wharles	Realign the boundary to the Lancaster Canal.	Strong opposition from one of the parish councils concerned.
SA1	St Annes on the Sea	Create a new parish for the Squires Gate Lane area.	All stakeholders opposed.
SG1	Staining Weeton with Preese	Realign the boundary to the railway line.	
SN1	Singleton Staining	Realign the boundary to the railway line.	
WS1	Weeton with Preese Westby with Plumpton	Include the land at Whyndyke Farm in Weeton with Preese instead of Westby with Plumpton.	Would be inconsistent with new ward boundaries. When Whyndyke Farm is developed out, there may be a need to consider a new parish.
WS2	Weeton with Preese	Realign the boundary to the motorway	

	Westby with Plumpton		
WS3	Weeton with Preese Westby with Plumpton	Realign the boundary to the railway line	
WS4	Westby with Plumpton	Move boundary to West Moss Lane	Superseded by WS4/1