

**COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – BECKERMET WITH THORNHILL**

**PORTFOLIO HOLDER:** Cllr John Bowman  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Tim Capper, Democratic Services Manager  
**REPORT AUTHORS:** Tim Capper

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| <b>Summary</b>         | Reports a request from Ponsonby Parish Council for further changes to parish boundaries in the Beckermets with Thornhill and Ponsonby areas. |
| <b>Recommendation:</b> | That the Working Party considers whether to undertake a new Community Governance Review.   |

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Council on 12 October 2010 agreed to make a Reorganisation Order under Section 86 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 abolishing the former parishes of St Bridget’s Beckermets and St John’s Beckermets, and creating a new parish of Beckermets (subsequently re-named Beckermets with Thornhill). The Order also made consequential changes to the parish boundaries of Egremont, Haile, Lowside Quarter and Ponsonby parishes.
- 1.2 The Order was made on the recommendation of the former Parish Review Working Party following a Community Governance Review, and after consultation with electors in the area, as required by the 2007 Act before an Order is made. There were two consultation periods prior to the Order being made.

**2 REQUEST FOR FURTHER REVIEW**

- 2.1 The Council has subsequently received a request from Ponsonby Parish Council for a further alteration to the boundary between Ponsonby and Beckermets with Thornhill parishes, in the vicinity of the Blackbeck roundabout. The effect of the suggested boundary change would be that six properties to the west of the A595 south of Blackbeck would be transferred from Beckermets with Thornhill parish to Ponsonby. (A plan showing the area will be available at the meeting.) It is understood from Ponsonby Parish Council that the residents of some of the affected properties made representations during the consultations on the 2010 Community Governance Review, though we have no record of any such representations on file.
- 2.2 A further change to the parish boundary as proposed by Ponsonby Parish Council can only be made through a further Community Governance Review and a further Reorganisation Order to be made by the Council. Any such further change would not take effect until the next parish council elections in 2015.

2.3 The Beckermeth with Thornhill Parish Council has expressed the view that there should be no further changes to boundaries.

### **3 CONCLUSION**

3.1 The Working Party is asked to consider if it wishes to undertake a further Community Governance Review as requested by Ponsonby Parish Council.

#### **List of Background Documents**

**List of Consultees:**

**Portfolio Holder**