

## **COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW – SANDWITH**

**PORTFOLIO** Cllr Norman Williams  
**HOLDER:**  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Martin Jepson  
**REPORT AUTHORS:** Tim Capper, Stephanie Shaw

<b>Summary</b>	Report to the Parish Review Working Party the current position on the possibility of forming a Parish Council for Sandwith.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	Decide whether or not to carry out a Community Governance Review for the creation of a Parish Council for Sandwith.

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 introduced powers for a principal council to undertake community governance reviews of all or part of their area, and to make local reorganisation orders on completion of reviews. Community governance reviews (CGR's) can comprise creating, merging or abolishing parishes, naming or re-naming parishes, amending parish boundaries, and altering electoral arrangements in parishes. Electoral arrangements include the number councillors to be elected to a parish council, their terms of office, and warding arrangements within parishes. Powers to undertake CGR's replace the powers under earlier legislation for the Secretary of State to make parish review orders on the recommendations of principal councils.

### **2 PRESENT POSITION**

- 2.1 Copeland Borough Council were asked by Sandwith Village Group to write to every elector in Sandwith, asking them whether or not they were in favour of forming a parish council for Sandwith.
- 2.2 Letters were sent to all electors on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010, the deadline for responses was 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010.
- 2.3 As at 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010, the number of responses received was 66 (29% of the electorate), 33 in favour of and 33 against a parish council for Sandwith

- 2.4 A further 15 votes were received in the days after 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010, which are 12 in favour and 3 against.
- 2.5 As a result of the consultation it appears that of those who expressed a view, opinion is equally divided between those for and those against the concept of a new parish for Sandwith.

### **3 CONCLUSION**

- 3.1 The Working Party is asked to:
- (i) Consider the response from the electors in Sandwith and decide whether or not to carry out a full Community Governance Review.

**List of Background Documents      Guidance on CGR's**

**List of Consultees:                      Chief Executive; S 151 Officer; portfolio holder**