# <u>Review of Parishes and Related Matters</u> Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

# **Review of Newark Town Council Ward Boundaries and Electoral Arrangements**

## Draft Recommendations – March 2025

#### 1.0 Background Information

- 1.1 The Council is undertaking a Community Governance Review of the Newark Town Council ward boundaries and electoral arrangements in light of future development of housing in the town and the current electoral arrangements.
- 1.2 In undertaking the Review, the Council will be guided by Part 4 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, the relevant parts of the Local Government Act 1972 and Guidance on Community Governance Reviews issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the Electoral Commission.
- 1.3 The Terms of Reference for this Review were approved by the General Purposes Committee on 12 December 2024. Comments on the Terms of Reference were sought from local residents and interested parties and the results of these were considered by the General Purposes Committee on 20 March 2025. In considering those, the Committee recommended these Draft Proposals upon which we are now inviting comments.

### 2.0 Draft Recommendations

- 2.1 The Draft Recommendations are as follows:
  - The Town Council retain 18 Members.
  - The South Ward be renamed Middlebeck.
  - The East Ward be merged with Beacon Ward.
  - The electoral arrangements for Newark Town Council, effective ahead of the May 2027 elections be as follows:

Beacon Ward – 4 Members Bridge Ward – 3 Members Castle Ward – 2 Members Devon Ward – 5 Members Magnus Ward – 2 Members Middlebeck Ward – 1 Member Sleaford Ward – 1 Member

Note – for any Order made following this Review, any by-elections to fill casual vacancies ahead of the full 2027 elections to be undertaken in accordance with the new electoral arrangements and boundaries.

2.2 The attached map shows the proposed changes to boundaries (changes in red).

## 3.0 <u>Statutory Consultation</u>

- 3.1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 requires the Council to consult the local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body who appears to have an interest in the Review (for instance the local Member of Parliament and the County Council) and to take the representations that are received into account by judging them against the criteria in the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.
- 3.2 The Council will consult in an appropriate and accessible manner within the Review area ensuring that those most affected are given the opportunity to respond. Any decisions made and the reasons for those decisions will be published following the Review.
- 3.3 In accordance with the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, representations received in connection with the Review will be taken into account, and consultees will be informed of the outcome of the review. The mechanism for this will be through the Council's website, issuing press releases, personal communication where appropriate and through the lodging of key documents on deposit at parish council offices etc.
- 3.4 The consultation period on the draft recommendations will end on 2 May 2025.

## 4.0 How to Contact Us

Contact details at the Council for the duration of the review are as follows:

Nigel Hill – Business Manager – Elections & Democratic Services Email voting@newarksherwooddc.gov.uk

### 5.0 Date of Publication of Draft Recommendations

Draft Recommendations due to be published 24 March 2025.

