

Ref	Name/source	Date of letter/e mail	Subject
1	Member of the Public	21/10/18	Britwell
2	Member of the Public	21/10/18	Britwell
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4	Member of the Public	21/10/18	Britwell
5	Member of the Public	24/10/18	Britwell
6	Member of the Public	23/10/18	Britwell
7	Member of the Public	26/10/18	Britwell
8	Member of the Public	28/10/18	Britwell
9	Member of the Public	29/10/18	Britwell
10	Minister of Britwell Baptist Church	29/10/18	Britwell
11	Member of the Public	30/10/18	Britwell
12	Member of the Public	31/10/18	Britwell

13	Member of the Public	31/10/18	Britwell
14	Member of the Public	31/10/18	Britwell
15	Britwell Parish Council	/10/18	Britwell
16	Member of the Public	08/11/2018	Britwell
17	Member of the public	09/11/2018	Britwell
18	Member of the Public	25/10/18	Colnbrook with Poyle
19	Member of the Public	06/11/2018	Colnbrook with Poyle
20	Colnbrook Village Resident and Secretary of the Colnbrook Residents Association	06/11/2018	Colnbrook with Poyle
21	Member of the Public	06/11/2018	Colnbrook with Poyle
22	Member of the Public	09/11/2018	Colnbrook with Poyle
23	Trustee Colnbrook Community Partnership	09/11/2018	Colnbrook with Poyle
24	Thames Valley Police	09/11/2018	Colnbrook with Poyle
25	Member of the Public	9/10/18	Wexham Court
26	Member of the Public	20/10/18	Wexham Court
27	Mr Brian Edwards Hon. Treasurer Parish Church of St Mary Wexham	25/10/18	Wexham Court
28	Member of the Public	30/10/18	Wexham Court

1. Member of the Public - Britwell

I hereby vote YES to abolish the Britwell Parish Council.

2. Member of the Public - Britwell

I hereby vote Yes to abolishing the Britwell Parish Council

3. Member of the Public - Britwell

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4. Member of the Public - Britwell

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5. Member of the Public - Britwell

My mum and I have discussed the abolition of the council and believe it should be abolished.

6. Member of the Public - Britwell

In a nutshell I think the Britwell Parish Council needs to be abolished. I purchased a new build house on Kennedy Park 4yrs or so ago and felt we had a fantastic spot albeit with the community centre opposite on Long Furlong Drive. Within 6 months, the Chicken Ranch opened and thus our home ownership has become a nightmare. Drug dealing, Anti Social Behaviour, daily Drink Driving from the venue all of which has been reported to numerous bodies over the years. When it first opened I contacted Britwell Parish Council asking why the Chicken Ranch failed to appear on our property search paperwork prior to buying and that we should have all been told yet I was totally ignored. I contacted them a few times about the same issue and the fact that they had ignored me and still got no response leading me to believe they were closing ranks and effectively being corrupt as I then had the belief that they opened the chicken ranch with back handers. When we complained about noise issues every single weekend they got a Security Guard to work there to take noise readings... To highlight how dodgy this was, whenever he went to take a reading, the music would be turned down and the door shut to lower the reading. Additionally that security guard was there drinking anyway so he effectively wore a badge to tick a box for the parish council to hush the residents around the chicken ranch. The chicken ranch needs to be closed. The drug dealing from there is absolutely rife (again, it has been reported in numerous different ways).

We have also complained about the sheer amount of drug dealing in the area, and anti social behaviour in Kennedy Park, and Kennedy Parade shops. Nothing gets done about that either. We have pleaded for the benches in Kennedy Park to be removed as they were the worst thing they could have put in there yet they still exist. We asked for more litter bins to make it 'easier' for the dog walkers who fail to pick up their dog mess, or the feral teenagers getting served booze from the off license on the Parade smashing the bottles all over the field making it hazardous for dogs yet were turned down. We have additionally reported these to SBC and at least had a response yet Britwell Parish Council just ignore us (I know my neighbours have complained to them too about issues). Frankly we pay the Britwell Precept for absolutely nothing. They are not transparent. They do not respond to genuine concerns from their residents/electorate and just ignore them as if they are a problem themselves or might make them face the issues they created in the first place. They do nothing good for the area, and those voting to keep it are only clinging on to the past. Continue building in Britwell, demolish the Chicken Ranch and build there if you must. Britwell Parish Council needs to be abolished.

7. Member of the Public - Britwell

The parish council have always supported local people within our community and small preschool's like ours, without their support we not be able to provide the dedicated service we offer our families within our Britwell community. The parish council grounds provide football for all ages of children, they put on free events for the children at Christmas for families who would not usually be able to attend a pantomime financially. They represent our parish at council meetings and let ordinary peoples voices be heard over crime, policing and housing issues on our estate. These are just a few of the many items covered at the parish meetings. Please do not close our parish council down, how will our voices be heard or represented otherwise.

8. Member of the Public - Britwell

I am in favour of the the Britwell Parish to remain for the reasons, 1. It provides a platform for the community to come to together during the carnival period which will disconnect us from one another if taking away. 2. Our young Lad's enjoy the use of the ground for their football games. 3. Over crowding the communtiy with more properties will in the long run creat opportunities for crimes evolving among the youths that will go out of control in years to come.

9. Member of the Public - Britwell

It should be abolished.

10. Minister of Britwell Baptist Church - Britwell

I am the minister of Britwell Baptist Church and wish to submit that the Parish grounds should be maintained for the use of people living on the estate. This is the place where we hold most of our community events on a regular basis. As churches together we support the work Britwell Parish does for the community here is Britwell. I am in favour of the parish ground NOT to be taken over by the council. Britwell community needs these grounds to help integration of people in this community.

11. Member of the Public - Britwell

The park is significant for so many way, brings together evryone within the family during carnival

12. Member of the Public - Britwell

Please use my vote to SAVE (KEEP IT) our local BRITWELL PARISH COUNCIL.

13 . Member of the Public - Britwell

1. The whole residents will lose out community facilities.
2. Local democratic representation will be lost.
- 3.The community enjoys cohesion among each other and much more.

14 . Member of the Public - Britwell

1. The community will be better served by having local democracy and local community centre.
2. The oneness and cohesion existence requires the parish to continue.
3. Without the centre the community will facilities and much more.

15 Britwell Parish Council -Attached as Annex A

16. Member of the public – Britwell

I would like to raise my concern about Chicken Ranch Pub. The problem with ongoing noise and parties was reported by us many times with no result. the place attracts drug dealers and suspicious people later at night.

17. Member of the Public – Britwell

I was unsure about the choice on abolishing the Parish Council until I looked at their official website. The last 'news' item was from November 2017, if the Parish Council has no news to share in the last year, what is the point in them even being here? Disband the Parish Council.

18. Member of the Public – Colnbrook with Poyle

Question Q1 of your Ballot appears to be loaded against the Parish Council. In fact it contains two separate questions. One is about the provision of effective services and the other about engagement. If one considers that the Parish Council are providing very effective services but that there is certainly some room for improvement in engagement with local people that don't take an interest in local affairs and are somewhat apathetic towards community life then the ballot is worthless and could be dangerously misleading. In this instance should one vote yes or no. Most people will wrongly decide that they need to say "No". The Ballot form instructions seeking that it is completed and returned immediately gives no time for the voters' proper reflection or research. Some people who don't really care will not know or be that interested in what services the Parish Council as opposed the District Council provide. You will therefore receive uninformed and unconsidered votes.

19. Member of the Public – Colnbrook with Poyle

Very much support the existence of our Parish Council. However I accept that there is room for improvement. Slough Borough Council should strongly and without political pressure consider revising the qualifications required in terms of candidates standing for election (if this is within their gift).

Candidates should be permanent residents in the Parish at the time of election. Further to this the Parish should be warded into three areas divided along the lines of the pre 1995 county borders. Each ward should have four representatives (ideally each living in that ward). Political parties have increased their efforts to take control of our parish and currently we have four Cllrs that do not live in the Parish. Three of these are sponsored and supported by political parties. The other has significant business interests in the area. I believe that such people, bringing with them their own agendas dilute the representation of the local resident population. Colnbrook is significantly different from the rest of Slough. Visitors often comment on this, as did last year's Mayor when she met some of the community at just two of our very many successful community social events. It is the people that actually live in Colnbrook and go about their lives here that suffer the highs and lows of having good community spirit whilst living right next door to one of the busiest airports in the world. We are also the location for a huge incinerator that handles all the waste from Slough and a much wider area. In the last decade Slough's planning policies have brought Heathrow Airport even further into our front rooms with the Poyle Industrial Estate changing from light engineering, laboratories and offices into an extension of Heathrow's Freight Handling Facility. Lorries are now destroying our street furniture and pumping pollution into one of our local schools. Despite lobbying by residents and the Parish no mitigations have been carried out. Also and alarmingly without any consultation or proper engagement with Colnbrook residents SBC decided to support Heathrow expansion with a third runway to be built in our parish. Shame on you SBC. Our resident Parish councillors either meet the community at the school gates, in local streets, at community gatherings and events. Most are members of local clubs, associations, societies, churches. Amongst them we have school governors, Neighbourhood action group members,

Flood Action Group members, Village Hall trustees, Wives Group members, Whist Club supporters, Heathrow Local Focus Forum members, Colnbrook Community Association members, active Colnbrook Residents' Association members. They have always been and remain a real physical part of our community before and without the direct aid of the internet. It is appreciated that there now is another world out there where people living in other countries can post their views on what's happening in Colnbrook and probably this is somewhere that the Parish Council should look to raise their profile and improve the content on the website. However, the Parish Council continue to host public sessions at their monthly meetings. They also hold monthly surgeries or drop in sessions for people to raise issues. They publish newsletters and they do their best to provide useful information on notice boards. They are available, approachable people and very willing to be part of two way engagement with the community. The Parish Council's community engagement compares very favourably with that of the District Council which have no Public meetings in Colnbrook, Borough Councillors hold no surgeries and to the best of my knowledge Colnbrook no longer receives the Citizen newsletter. Also, SBC's recreation ground lost its Green Flag Status last year. This can be compared with the Parish Council's longer and continuous success. I understand that of late that the District Council has reduced the frequency of meetings with the Parish Council and suggested a more cumbersome method of communication with responsible officers. SBC should use the intelligence of the Parish Council to directly assist departments where there are issues that need attention. With an inadequate highways monitoring team SBC should welcome the Parish Council's involvement. I trust that whilst being critical you find my comments constructive.

20. Brenda Pettit, Colnbrook Village Resident and Secretary of the Colnbrook Residents Association – Colnbrook with Poyle

I am writing as a Colnbrook Village Resident and also as Secretary of the Colnbrook Residents Association. I strongly support the retention of Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council. This Council having been requested by the residents in 1995 is to the best of my knowledge and belief still very much needed, supported, wanted and required by the overall majority of residents in Colnbrook. I have always found the Parish Council to be wholly supportive of all the activities promoted by the Colnbrook Residents Association as well as the Community as a whole. It is at the door step of the residents when most needed and so valuable in enhancing good Community Relations and harmony. It would be so very sad to lose this service which the Colnbrook Residents Association feel is such an integral and important part of our village. I speak for all our members in confirming how important the Parish Council is to our community. It must not be lost under any circumstances.

21. Member of the Public – Colnbrook with Poyle

Slough Borough Council should be more engaging with the Parish. It seems we are too remote and the wrong side of the M4 to be of much interest other than the site for an incinerator, a proliferation of freight forwarding depots and now a new airport runway. The people of Colnbrook with Poyle want you to value them not just the land assets. SBC needs to review its own governance as well. We have two district councillors in Colnbrook only one has any significant contact with a wide range of residents, attends social and community events as an equal, is a governor at one of our schools and a member of Colnbrook societies and associations. The other is distinctly different and somewhat anonymous to parish residents although now a civic personality who apparently does much good work in other parts of Slough.. This person and a close relative backed by a political party both stood at the last Parish Election and won sufficient votes to take up office but failed to accept it in the prescribed manner. This put residents to a cost of circa £7000 for a by-election.. However this person sought to blame others.

It concerns me to hear that this person is a member of the Governance review team. If this is true I trust any prejudicial views will be guarded against by the rest of the committee.

22. Member of the Public – Colnbrook with Poyle

I have lived in Colnbrook for 11 years and do not know what the parish really do. I found out a few years ago that they arrange a Christmas dinner but not sure how you find out where or when it is. Would be happy not to have them.

23. Colnbrook Community Partnership – attached as Annex B

24. Thames Valley Police – Colnbrook with Poyle

I am the neighbourhood Sgt that covers Colnbrook. I have been a neighbourhood Officer for over 10 years. I have recently moved to the East Slough neighbourhood team which covers Colnbrook. Since starting on the team I have been impressed with Colnbrook Parish Councils passion for trying to improve the parish. When I have attended the meetings there have been residents present which is always good to see, giving their view points and asking questions. The Parish Council have assisted me in trying and resolve some of the issues that are of concern to the community. I hope we will be able to continue working together in the future.

25. Member of Public – Wexham Court

I believe the Parish Council should continue operation, however changes are required. Councillors should be from the parish they are representing to ensure a vested interest in the work that they are doing. There is need for a greater awareness within the Parish to the work that the PC do within the community, as well as the councillors being more present in the local area at regular intervals to understand the needs of the constituents. Measures should be put in place to review the attendance of councillors to PC meetings, notably a minimum percentage of meeting attendance should be set as current levels for some councillors is unsatisfactory. Greater support is needed from the borough council to ensure the PC runs correctly and is offered training where necessary.

26. Member of Public – Wexham Court

It is immensely sad to lose this parish after many generations due to the very recent infiltration of a group of racist Labour councillors who have no interest in the parish, only their personal gain. I only hope this level of corruption is not at borough level, but I have little hope of that, and I hope the recent investigations revealed in the newspapers are continued at all levels

of our supposed elected officials

27. Mr Brian Edwards Hon. Treasurer Parish Church of St Mary Wexham

In response to your communication dated 1st October which was received a few days ago, we at St Mary's Church Wexham Reject the closing down of the Wexham Court Parish Council on the grounds that the representatives on that Council understand the needs of the local area.

The recommended changes to the boundary of the Wexham Court Estate is absurd. The estate was built as it should be recognised as a well knot community from all religions and walks of life and it has been for some fifty years.

We point out that the website stated in the fourth paragraph is conveniently not recognised and cannot be visited. You should make sure it works before you publicise to the 'outside world'.

Wexham Court Parish Council should remain as it is currently formed.

On behalf of the Parochial Church Council.

28. Member of the Public – Wexham Court

Would like to see Norway Drive removed from Slough and be in separate town of Wexham. The area is big enough. Otherwise if you are twisting my arm, create parish of ward of Wexham Court (not Wexham lea) to include Wexham Green and remove Upton Lea.

Annex A:

Re: Community Governance Review 2018

Britwell Parish Council notes the recommendations made by the Slough Borough Council Review team in favour of the abolition of Britwell Parish Council .

Further to your request for a further submission, Britwell PC notes the arguments you have put forward to residents in the leaflet which you are issuing and responds as follows: _

What Slough Borough Council Says

The borough council had hoped a reduction in size would enable the parish council to operate in a more strategic and focused way and bring about improved community engagement and more effective and convenient delivery of local services.

Britwell Parish Council Says

- As a result of the 2013 Review, the Borough Council reduced the size and scope of Britwell Parish Council. The local services it can provide relate to the Community Centre and the surrounding grounds.
- Since Summer 2017, Strategy has been an ongoing Agenda item at the monthly Full Council meetings.
- Focus on Strategy led the Parish Council to work closely with the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) and Borough Council Events to run the Summer Celebration in June 2018.
- The Council is committed to ongoing partnership with NAG and Borough Council Events on future events, and is open to other partnerships which would benefit the local community.

The borough council .. is not convinced the parish council has made any significant improvements in the way it works, other than removing its direct involvement in running the Chicken Ranch bar,

Britwell Parish Council Says

There has been a major change in the way in which the Council works, moving from direct control to working increasingly in co-operation with others, including:-

- Working with Berkshire Active and also participating in "Active Slough", organised by the Borough Council in 2018, by allowing the Community Centre and grounds to be used for:-
 - Wildcat Girls Football for 5-7 year olds and for 8-11 year olds; Teen Boxing
 - Pilates
 - Rugby for children and young people.
- Working party meetings with the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) and Borough Council Events to plan the Summer Celebration in June 2018;
- Bringing in Tenants to run and take the commercial risk on the Bar, and in the process free the Parish Council from all the workload involved in running a Bar.

What Slough Borough Council Says

The borough council .. is not convinced the parish council ... has succeeded in bringing the community together despite it being a smaller parish council

Britwell Parish Council Says

- The only Bar now open in Britwell is the Chicken Ranch - the Borough Council would plan to close it;
- After a gap of two years, in June 2018, the community came together again at the Summer Celebration, a bigger and more inclusive event than previously held.
- Questionnaires were produced to seek Residents' views on the Summer Celebration
 - 66 completed questionnaires were returned ,with 100% stating their support for the Summer Celebration as a good use of Council resources.

- The Hall is used by a variety of groups including Over SO's Arts & Crafts; Britwell Come Dancing; Britwell Drama Group at reduced or subsidised rates as well as commercial users which benefits residents, such as Slimming World .
- New initiatives which are seen as benefitting and bringing together the community are considered and approved by the Parish Council at reduced or subsidised rates eg The Job Club.

The borough council also has concerns about the parish council's ability to operate effectively and transparently and, whilst some of its services are valued by local people, the borough council believes these and other services could be provided more efficiently and effectively for local residents by other means.

Britwell Parish Council Says

- The Parish Council meets monthly (other than August & December) and its meetings at the Community Centre are open . Does the Borough Council really believe that there will be more transparency for residents if Britwell issues are considered, amongst many other issues, in Slough by the Borough Council ?
- Neighbourhood police attend Parish Council meetings - where they are able to hear and be asked to respond to local issues.
- The Parish Council is able to offer residents and local groups a reduced or subsidised rate to hire the Hall - would the Borough Council continue to do so? The charges at the Britwell Centre (run by Slough Borough Council) are substantially higher than those charged to use the Parish Community Centre.
- Parish Council members live in the community- they hear of issues affecting local people and then bring to attention of those responsible - be it anti social behaviour (Monksfield Way & Twist Way), drug dealing (Monksfield Way & Upper Lees), dog fouling (Goodwin Road), or cars illegally parked (Long Readings Lane).
- The Borough Council gives no indications as to what costs savings if any it believes direct control would provide .

What Slough Borough Council Says

The review group has considered what arrangements might be put in place to engage with communities in the area if the parish were to be abolished. The existing parish council building could continue to be used, linked with its outdoor recreation space, as a centre for local

young people and sport. Members noted the Britwell Hub provides a venue for recreational and social activities as well as learning and the local library. Parties and events could be supported by a temporary bar.

Britwell Parish Council Says

- The Parish Council consists of local people, who are able to hear and express Residents' concerns - be it to Neighbourhood Police who attend Council meetings or on local planning applications . That local democratic voice will disappear with the Borough Council's proposals;
- The Parish Council - being accountable to local Britwell people - is better placed to decide how best to use the Community Centre and grounds - hire out the car park

to a car wash business (No) or allow hire of Hall for Diabetic Screening at reduced rate (Yes) ;

- Having Tenants to run the only remaining Bar in Britwell - the Borough Council only plans to have a temporary bar for parties and events.
- It is not clear that the Britwell Hub could accommodate the non Youth groups which currently use the Parish Community Centre and if it did, it can only be assumed that they would be charged the rates publicised for the Britwell Hub -which for some might mean closing down their group.

In sum, the Borough Council's Review Team, as expressed in their leaflet to Britwell residents, is proposing a democratic deficit, in removing the presence of the Parish Council, but providing no real substance as to how and to what extent its direct administration would result in a material improvement for residents.

In view of the public interest, this letter will be copied to the media.

Annex B:

Colnbrook Community Partnership

Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council

Dear Madam,

On behalf of the Colnbrook Community Partnership (CCP) I submit a firm positive response in favour of the retention of the Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council. The Parish Council offers a great deal of support to other Colnbrook community groups, acting in the capacity of an 'umbrella organisation' without their specific support, the future of our community groups would certainly be compromised.

The Parish Council are the first tier of local government, being made up from individuals who live or work within the Parish Boundary, and as such are both the closest and have the greater knowledge of the community and the problems that beset this community.

A strong community bond has evolved between most of the Colnbrook groups who work with the Parish Council in order to organise and structure community events throughout the year. The Parish Council are represented as a Partner with the Colnbrook Community Partnership, as is SBC, within the charity. The Parish Council have representation on the Colnbrook Residents' Association, Colnbrook Village Hall Trust, Colnbrook NAG and Colnbrook FAG. Their involvement in other issues including HGV traffic through our residential areas, Fly-tipping, highway and neglected footpath complaints are well documented and are issues to which the Parish Council have no direct responsibility for but nevertheless advocate strongly to find solutions to these problems.

If the Parish Council were to be disbanded, then I fear much of our community spirit and cohesion would be lost. It must be remembered that it was the Colnbrook Residents' Association who in 1947 brought together the three separate districts of

Colnbrook, Poyle and Brands Hill. From this in 1994 when Colnbrook with Poyle ward was the outcome of the Boundaries Commission decision to move our community into Slough Borough Council that the CRA successfully petitioned for a Parish Council. That situation has worked well for the community and it still has the potential to work. There may be some valid criticisms of the Parish Council no organisation can ever please everyone all of the time, but without that “buffer” between Community and Local authority is a situation that ultimately would not be of benefit to anyone.

I therefore strongly advocate that the future of the Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council be assured.