

HAMBLETON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report To: Council
18 July 2017

Subject: **REQUEST BY EXELBY LEEMING AND NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL TO
CHANGE THE NAME OF EXELBY, LEEMING AND NEWTON PARISH**

Bedale Ward

1.0 PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:

1.1 This report sets out a request received from Exelby, Leeming and Newton Parish Council for a change of name of the parish and seeks approval of the recommendation to change the name of Exelby, Leeming and Newton parish to Exelby, Leeming and Londonderry parish.

2.0 PARISH COUNCIL REQUEST:

2.1 A request has been received from Exelby, Leeming and Newton Parish Council seeking the District Council's approval for a change of name of Exelby, Leeming and Newton parish. The Parish Council has proposed that the parish should be renamed Exelby, Leeming and Londonderry parish as this provides a clearer description of the relevant geographical area.

2.2 The Parish Council has suggested that the name 'Newton' is not recognised as a postal area and is known only by a small minority of local residents by reference to Newton Manor. Londonderry however is a hamlet within the parish which is not currently identified within the name of the parish. The Parish Council believes this should be rectified. Londonderry is already acknowledged in the name of the local primary school which is called Leeming and Londonderry Community School. The Parish Council also believes the change of name would eliminate any confusion with the village of Newton Le Willows, which is located outside the parish.

2.3 At the request of a Parish Council the District Council has power (pursuant to section 75 of the Local Government Act 1972) to change the name of a parish, provided no other changes are proposed. The Parish Council's request is limited to the change of name of the parish and, therefore, can be considered and implemented by the District Council without the need for a Community Governance Review.

2.4 The Parish Council has consulted with the residents of the parish to seek their views on the proposed change of name. The Parish Council reports that it has received no adverse comments from local residents to the proposal to change the name of the parish.

2.5 Should the District Council approve the recommendation then (pursuant to section 14 of the Local Government Act 1972) the Parish Council's name will automatically change to reflect the new name of the parish, and will thereafter be known as Exelby, Leeming and Londonderry Parish Council.

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT:

3.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Section 75 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables a District Council to change the name of a parish where a request is received from a parish council. The 1972 Act does not require a consultation to be undertaken by the District Council when considering such a request. Due consideration however, must be given to the reasons for the request and the outcome of any consultation with residents undertaken by the parish council. These matters are addressed respectively in paragraphs 2.1, 2.2 and 2.4 of the report.

5.2 If the recommendation is approved the District Council is required to produce a notice confirming the change of name of the parish. This must be published within the parish. The District Council is also required to send copies to the Secretary of State, the Director General of the Ordnance Survey and the Registrar General.

6.0 EQUALITY/DIVERSITY ISSUES

6.1 Equality and Diversity issues have been considered. However there are no issues associated with this report.

7.0 RECOMMENDATION:

7.1 It is recommended that:

- (1) the parish of Exelby, Leeming and Newton be renamed Exelby, Leeming and Londonderry parish;
- (2) a Notice be published in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report.

JUSTIN IVES

Background papers: Request to change the name of the parish from Exelby, Leeming and Newton Parish Council

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