

Comments from the Boughton and Dunkirk Neighbourhood Plan group (B&DNP) to Community Governance Review Stage 2

Larissa Reed replied to our comments on stage 1:

SBC acknowledged B&DNP stating:

While we acknowledge the existence and status of the B&DNP, we do not consider it unreasonable that the group was not included as a specific consultee for Stage One,...

B&DNP response: By implication, this suggests B&DNP would be consulted for stage 2.

We thank you again for your engagement and assure you that all representations will be given consideration in accordance with the law and guidance.

B&DNP response:

Yet our views, and those of the majority who objected, have been ignored with the same criteria (albeit with a corrected map).

Sadly, as expected, SBC did not consult the group for stage 2.

B&DNP response to stage 2:

Question 5. Proposal: Priory ward, part of FTC, has 2 Councillors serving the area, should this number be increased to 3 Councillors.

Question 6. Proposal: Watling ward, part of FTC, has 4 Councillors serving the area, should this number be increased to 6?

Question 7. Proposal: Should Watling ward, part of FTC, be split into 2 wards, East Watling ward and West Watling ward as shown on the map? See Q6 on implications.

B&DNP response: These statements note no financial implications. This needs full clarification: 3 councillors will cost more than 2, and the 6 councillors would cost more than 4.

Question 8. Proposal: Should Watling ward, part of FTC, be extended to include Perry Court in Ospringe Parish as shown on the map?

B&DNP response: No financial implications? Surely planning on Perry Court will bring more into FTC?

Question 9. Proposal: Should FTC be extended to include some properties in Ospringe Parish, as shown on the map?

B&DNP response:

It appears there will be more land with planning potential and income for FTC.

Question 11. Proposal: Should Sheldwich Parish Council be extended to include some properties in Faversham Town Council, as shown on the map?

B&DNP response:

Does this land exchange makes everything else 'equitable'?

Question 12. Proposal: Should Watling ward, part of Faversham Town Council, be extended to include properties in Goodnestone with Graveney Parish Council?

B&DNP response:

It appears there will be more land with planning potential and income for FTC.

The rest of this document refers to the B&DNP and question 10.

Would you like the existing Watling ward boundary be extended to the M2 and A2 London Road at Brenley Corner, meaning it is no longer parished by Boughton under Blean Parish Council and would be under Faversham Town Council?

Note: the red line on the map indicates the land within the line is currently parished by Boughton under Blean Parish Council.



- Yes, I would like to see this boundary change
- No, I think it should remain as it is
- I am not a resident of this area

Should Watling Ward boundary be extended to Brenley Corner area	
Yes-extend the boundary	22
No-keep as it	25
Not resident	14
TOTAL	61

B&DNP response:

Views expressed in stage one consultation ignored.

Not resident votes – does this mean not resident in the disputed red lined area? Do their votes not count?

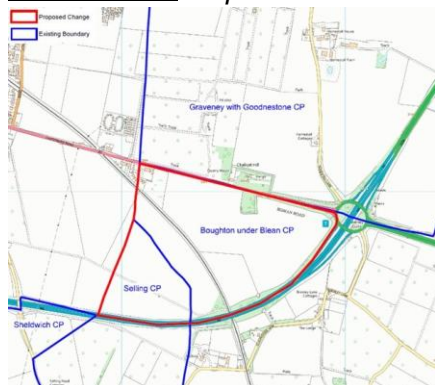
Despite this, Stage 2 asks:

Proposal: Should Faversham Town Council be extended to include some properties in Boughton under Blean Parish and Selling Parish, as shown on the map?

SAME QUESTION AS STAGE 1.

Note: This proposal has financial implications. Households that pay annual precept to Boughton under Blean Parish Council, currently £154.90 for a Band D property, or Selling Parish Council, currently £54.39 for a Band D property would, if this change is made, instead pay a precept each year to Faversham Town Council, which is currently based on £130.03 for a Band D property.

Information: Maps are for indication of area purposes only, boundary lines are subject to change.



- Yes - extend the boundary
- No change - keep the boundaries as they are
- I am not a resident of this area

B&DNP response:

There has been a blatant disregard of the people’s wishes.

The question is the same as stage 1. The only difference is SBC acknowledge the existence of Selling PC and the 9% of ‘the Duchy’ planning application they cover.

The added note regarding the precept, is deeply skewed and does not show their actual position on rates, as the precept is a small part of the payable amount. This is not transparent and is intended to mislead.

People in Faversham would pay £2513.34

People in Boughton would pay £2538.21

Boughton residents will pay 1.009895% if they stay in Boughton.

If transferred to FTC the saving is less than 1% - 48p per week and they would then live in a town, not in countryside.

The downside for Boughton PC, is any precept revenue from the Duchy would be lost, and they would need to consider an increase in precept to cover the loss.

FTC's reasonings are weak and only designed to increase their council tax income and the B&DNP cannot agree with any of them.

FTC states 'The Duchy development would straddle 3 parishes.'

B&DNP response: This happens throughout the Borough and causes no administrative confusion whatsoever. In the B&DNP area we have roads where the boundary runs down the middle of the road, and a Boughton Parish Councillor whose house is in Dunkirk, and his garden shed in Boughton. This is a complete RED HERRING and should be dismissed as the reason is invalid. The administration of the areas do not cause any issues to the parish councils.

B&DNP response: the reference, 'SE Faversham' (by the Duchy) is spurious. Tinbridge Oasts, in Boughton, were built in 1896. This supports inclusion into Boughton, NOT Faversham.

We could not find 'South East Faversham' in Faversham's own Magna Carta so it is clearly 'made up'.

FTC states '*Boughton and Courtenay and Selling ...*'

B&DNP response: FTC do not seem to be aware of their neighbour councils or the boundaries.

Boughton and Courtenay is NOT a parish.

Motorways do not serve as distinct boundaries. Both Hernhill and Graveney span the A299 Thanet Way; Boughton and Dunkirk both span the A2; Bredgar, Milstead, Lynsted and Doddington all span the M2. This is of a limited weight or of little importance, another red herring and should be dismissed as the reason is invalid.

FTC states *How the M2 would form a physical break or green belt between communities*

B&DNP response: This defies logic. The B&DNP wished to see the land between Boughton and Faversham as a green belt or green lung and separation of the two communities. FTC were in favour of the Duchy being built on the B&DNP green space and part of Boughton (and Selling).

Residents, at least the current ones, prefer to see their sense of place as in the countryside, part of the B&DNP green separation, not as urban expansion.

FTC comment '*This additional development ...*'

B&DNP response: a planning application only forms part of the urban expansion if they had pre-knowledge of the decision.

At stage 1 the majority voted against the changes. If at stage 2 the balance alters, it is because Faversham is 10x the size of Boughton and if FTC has been canvassing support for the changes the numbers will be disproportionately represented.

In favour: