

## SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** Resources Portfolio Holder  
**AUTHOR/S:** Revenues Manager

6<sup>th</sup> October 2009

### Boundaries of Rural Settlements for the Purposes of Rural Rate Relief 2010/11

#### Purpose

1. To review and determine the boundaries of Rural Settlements for the administration of Rural Rate Relief ('Village Shop' Relief) in accordance with section 42B of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997.
2. This is not a key decision but it is a legal requirement that boundaries are set before 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.

#### Background

3. The Council is required to determine annually the rural settlements within its area where the population of the settlement is less than 3,000, and to publish a list of settlements indicating their boundaries before 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.
4. Qualifying properties situated within such a designated rural settlement are eligible for relief from payment of the National Non-Domestic Rates.

#### Considerations

5. To be eligible for rate relief a business must be located in a qualifying rural settlement, which has a population of no more than 3,000 and falls wholly or partly in a rural area designated for the purposes of the rate relief scheme by the Secretary of State. It is the responsibility of the local authority to determine which settlements in its area meet this criterion, to identify their boundaries and place them on the authority's Rural Settlements List.
6. The current Rural Settlements List has been reviewed to take account of the latest population statistics published by Cambridgeshire County Council.

#### Implications

7.	Financial	The current Rural Settlements List facilitates the award of discretionary rural rate relief worth £111,701.69 in 2009/10, to 72 small rural businesses, at a cost to the Council of £27,925.42.
	Legal	The Council has a legal duty to set and publish the rural settlements list for each financial year by 31 <sup>st</sup> December of the previous year. Authority to agree the settlements has been delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder.
	Staffing	None
	Risk Management	The Council must agree and publish its Rural Settlement list by 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2009 in order for businesses to benefit from relief in 2010/11.
	Equal Opportunities	None

## Consultations

8. None

## Effect on Strategic Aims

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| <b>Commitment to being a listening council, providing first class services accessible to all.</b>  |
| Rural post offices are an important way for customers to pay Council Tax and Rent to the Council.  |
| <b>Commitment to ensuring that South Cambridgeshire continues to be a safe and healthy place for all.</b>  |
| None   |
| <b>Commitment to making South Cambridgeshire a place in which residents can feel proud to live</b>   |
| Rural Rate Relief can play an important role in keeping Post Offices at the heart of the rural way of life   |
| <b>Commitment to assisting provision for local jobs for all.</b>   |
| Rural rate relief can play an important role in ensuring the financial viability of rural businesses essential to the quality of life of local residents and central to the community. In particular relief is awarded to post offices, petrol stations, general stores and public houses. |
| <b>Commitment to providing a voice for rural life.</b>   |
| Post offices, petrol stations, general stores and particularly public houses offer a place where people can come together as a community.  |

## Conclusions/Summary

10. The Council's Rural Settlements List for 2010/11 is unchanged from that of 2009/10.

## Recommendations

11. That the Portfolio Holder approves the Rural Settlement list for 2010/11 as attached at appendix "A" and authorises its publication.

**Appendix A** Rural Settlements List (rural settlements with a population of less than 3,000 people)

**Appendix B** Other rural settlements in the District with a population in excess of 3,000

**Background Papers:** the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Population Statistics provided by the Cambridgeshire County Council Research Group.

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## APPENDIX A

### Designated Rural Settlements in South Cambridgeshire with a Population Less Than 3,000

2010/2011



South  
Cambridgeshire  
District Council

*All settlement boundaries are defined by the parish boundary, except those marked*

*(\*) where the parish is divided into two rural settlements as shown in the attached maps*

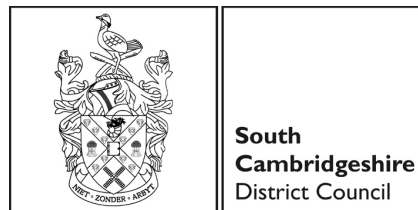
*(\*\*) where the boundary is as marked on the attached map*

Settlement	Settlement	Settlement
Great Abington	Fen Ditton	Steeple Morden (*)
Little Abington	Fen Drayton	Newton
Abington Pigotts	Fowlmere	Oakington
Arrington	Foxton	Orwell
Babraham	Little Gransden	Over
Balsham	Grantchester	Pampisford
Barrington	Graveley	Papworth Everard
Bartlow	Hardwick	Papworth St Agnes
Barton	Harlton	Rampton
Bassingbourn (*)	Harston	Little Shelford
Bourn	Haslingfield	Shepreth
Boxworth	Hatley	Shingay-Cum-Wendy
Caldecote	Hauxton	Shudy Camps
Carlton	Heydon	Stapleford
Castle Camps	Hildersham	Stow-Cum-Quy
Caxton	Hinxton	Swavesey
Childerley	Horningsea	Tadlow
Chishill	Horseheath	Teversham
Comberton	Ickleton	Thriplow
Conington	Kingston	Toft
Coton	Knapwell	Weston Colville
Croxton	Landbeach	West Wickham
Croydon	Litlington (**)	West Wrattling
Dry Drayton	Lolworth	Whaddon
Duxford	Longstanton	Whittlesford
Elsworth	Longstowe	Great Wilbraham
Eltisley	Madingley	Little Wilbraham (*)
Great Eversden	Meldreth	Wimpole
Little Eversden	Guilden Morden	

## APPENDIX B

### Villages that are Rural Settlements within the South Cambridgeshire District but have a Population of Over 3,000

2010/2011



Bar Hill

Cambourne

Cottenham

Fulbourn

Gamlingay

Girton

Histon

Impington

Linton

Melbourn

Milton

Sawston

Great Shelford

Waterbeach

Willingham