

Appendix E: Submissions received from Individuals

Submission made by Longstanton resident:

No.1 "I live just to the north of the busway. When people are trying to find our house from outside the area, they are often confused because they cannot find us in Longstanton, and yet when they travel north they see the signs for Northstowe and become confused. It makes little sense for our few houses to remain in Longstanton when geographically it doesn't look that way. The busway forms a natural boundary and makes sense, so that any house to the north of the busway becomes a Willingham address. None of the other options really makes sense in the long term."

No.2 "I moved here nearly 40 years ago to live in a village and want Longstanton to remain a village....."

No.3 "My option is B but with the Phase 3B boundary amended so it follows the line of the ancient natural hedgerow that formed the boundary between Home farm and old farm. As discussed at the recent consultation I am concerned about Option C and how it can be a viable option. In the documentation available on the website it says: What was the feedback from Round 1? What residents in surrounding villages said: Comments that residents made in the Round 1 consultation showed that people living in the existing villages around Northstowe have a strong desire for governance arrangements for their villages to remain separate from those for Northstowe. What residents in Northstowe said: Northstowe residents didn't see their future governance arrangement as being joined with the surrounding villages, instead expressing a strong view that all phases of Northstowe should be governed on its own. Based on the views received in the first round of the consultation, we have suggested three options for how a new Northstowe parish could be formed. We want to know which option best meets the aims of the Community Governance Review. As a reminder, the aims of the review were to make sure any new governance arrangement would: - Reflect the identifies and interests of the community in that area - Be effective and convenient - Consider any other arrangement for the purpose of the community representation or community engagement - Ensure boundaries are strong, clearly defined and likely to remain

easily identifiable. I do not believe that (in the view of what has been written above) that C is a viable option and I do not believe that it is an option that SCDC can accept. Bloor Homes and Phase 3b are in the NAAP and people purchased homes on the Bloor site on the understanding that they were going to live in a town. They are simply not going to accept a decision that puts their houses into a village. If they are forced to be part of Longstanton village could there be a legal challenge? In addition the houses on Bloor and being proposed for 3b are town houses and Phase 3b has a primary school! Since when does a village like Longstanton have two primary schools? Both areas also have a distinct 'town' identity one of the important considerations listed by SCDC - their identity will not fit with that of Longstanton village and I am sure that the residents of those areas will not feel that they will fit into Longstanton either. NAAP and the Northstowe planning permission make clear that the rural character of Longstanton has to be protected. Option C does not achieve this and is detrimental to this policy. Review documentation makes clear that the implications of Option C will involve the doubling of Longstanton village's population. The impact of the absorption of Bloor Homes and 3b area into Longstanton puts at risk the long term future of Longstanton as a viable and independent village on the edge of Northstowe; which is what residents have asked for as part of this consultation. Option C simply increases the likelihood that Longstanton will be absorbed into the town in the future. Contrary to the view being expressed in the village I do not believe that Option C will 'save' the village. I am concerned that people may choose this option thinking it will save Longstanton village whilst not understanding the warning outlined in the documentation with regards the consequences on population size and the possible sub-division of Longstanton into wards. If C is not a viable option then that leaves Options A and B, both of which, and without consultation, take part of Home Farm land into Northstowe. There has been no consultation on Home Farm being included within the area of the new town and I believe that decision has implications for its future potential development. NAAP made clear the Longstanton's rural character had to be maintained and this planning policy requirement must be taken into account. The NAAP boundary for Northstowe to the west of the B1050 is an ancient hedgerow - the boundary between Home Farm and Old Farm. This natural boundary will provide screening for Phase 3b and there can be justification for allowing Northstowe governance to cross over it. The future of Home Farm land should not a matter for

this governance review. It is a matter for Longstanton residents - it is after all our village. The Home Farm land was never including in the NAAP and should not be included within the review now. I simply do not believe that inclusion of that land was proposed by either Northstowe or Longstanton residents as part of this review. Yes, the documentation states that you can draw your own line - well if that is the case people could have drawn a line to include the Home Farm land, not the other way round. Many Longstanton residents will not understand the implications of the Northstowe boundary being Over road and villagers should not have been put in this position. Many people will just choose an option and will not mark up the maps as advertised. This could allow Northstowe to extend beyond the NAAP area by stealth. It would have been fairer if this consultation had used the old hedge boundary as per NAAP and allowed residents to mark up an extension to the Over road if they wished. I suspect if this had been the case the outcome of the review boundary would be different. I hope that the failure of residents to mark-up maps or query the Over Road boundary is not interpreted as approval for this proposed boundary. Inclusion of Over Road as the boundary is clear a SCDC led decision and not a residents' one and whilst on a map it might seem logical in practise it is not. Allowing Northstowe to reach the Over Road does not give a clear boundary. On the contrary, driving on the Over road will mean passing Longstanton on one side and Northstowe on the other side. The old hedge boundary is an established natural boundary that was good enough for the Government Inspector and good enough for NAAP. Retaining it as the formal boundary will allow Northstowe to fit more sympathetically into the landscape; provides better wildlife mitigation and protects Longstanton's rural character. The latter being a pivotal part of NAAP and the Northstowe Planning Permission. If Home Farm land is include in Northstowe what are the consequences for that land? Will it be open to development of be used as overspill land for Northstowe every time they need something eg: the cemetery, wind turbine etc. If this is the case Longstanton residents and Parish Council will have little say over the use of this land and this is not acceptable. If Home Farm land is to be included within the Northstowe governance area this should be the subject to proper public consultation so that people can understand the implications of their decision before being asked to make it. And finally: my reason for choosing Option B is so that Northstowe can cross over the guided busway. There is substantial development to the west of the B1050 which is included in the NAAP. By crossing the guided busway

at this point will allow the Park and Rise and this important public transport hub to be central with the possibility of future housing and facilities being place within walking district of public transport, which I believe is council policy. If off site provision of facilities is required eg; for a cemetery, a solar farm etc then the land the other side of the guided busway is best place to provide that. I know that residents of this area may want to stay as part of Longstanton village but NAAP does not allowed this happen unless Option C is chosen. Failing to allow Northstowe to cross the busway will have long term implications for both Willingham and Longstanton as rural villages. The Inspector made clear that Northstowe would have to expand. If this governance review fails to allow Northstowe to cross the guided busway then precedence will be set which will impact the future expansion of Northstowe. Failure to cross the busway puts Longstanton's future as an independent village at greater risk. By allowing Northstowe to cross the busway allows the route to become centralised rather than being on the edge of the town. It also better protects the rural character of both Longstanton and Willingham for the long term. They have a better chance of remaining independent villages under option B and this is what villagers' expressed clearly in the first round of consultation.”

No.4 “The highlighted area marked up on the map is not part of the Northstowe master plan (between the field boundary and Over road). This parcel of land should remain with Longstanton Parish - require separation by agricultural land from Northstowe development.....”

No.5 “I strongly feel that Option C is the best of a bad situation. Clearly the existing Longstanton residents to the North of the busway cannot be a separate island, but why should they be moved to Willingham after all these years. Equally I very much sympathise with those who have moved into new homes badged as Northstowe may well not want to change to Longstanton. It would have been far better if this had been thought about and determined before building started. That said, with option C, I do not think that Longstanton parish council should be warded. It is critical that those in the newer homes to the West of B1050 are felt welcomed and included rather than putting yet more division in place. We really don't need any more of this ridiculous us and them nonsense. There is nothing to stop residents from any area of

a parish from standing to represent everyone's views and so I see no reason that warding is needed.”

No.6 “It is my opinion that the district councillors & parish councillors are trying to influence us to choose Options A or B. Who to the do understand what is going on regarding the parish boundaries between Longstanton, Northstowe & Willingham, & option C for the residents who want to stay in Longstanton. they are NOT TAKING ON THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES toward the residents who do not want to leave LONGSTANTON PARISH. We have lived here for over 38 years and others have lived along station Road even longer & it’s always been known as STATION ROAD LONGSTANTON, even the guided bus way stop is classed as LONGSTANTON & NOT NORTHSTOWE. • When the Longstanton village sign was erected back in 2018 before the boundary were being fort after this also indicates that Longstanton Parish didn’t want Station Road part of their parish then, as there were no signs to indicate station Road was to the left of the roundabout, it seemed like in 2018 when the new roundabout was put in Longstanton Parish council had already dismissed Station Road Longstanton as the signage omitted that station Road Longstanton was to the left, & new people to the area assumed that all of Longstanton village was to the right of the roundabout. • if the parish council do not want the extra 1000 houses why are they not objecting to the development of phase 3 b going ahead as local residents do not want green land to be developed and the extra traffic coming out onto the already congested B1050.....”

No.7 “..... Retaining land to the west of the B1050 within Longstanton would benefit Longstanton as the added precept would assist development of facilities within the village especially as the village will lose the precept from all properties in Rampton Drift.”

Submission from Rampton Drift Resident

No.8 “Living in Rampton Drift we will become engulfed in Phase 2 of Northstowe. Our postal address and postcode currently cause huge problems. It would be beneficial to be amended from Longstanton to Northstowe.”

Responses from Northstowe residents:

No.9 “Northstowe is a new town and is still forming its identity. In the short time I have lived here there is a massive amount of effort going into growing a community spirit. It is important that we remain cohesive and grow together. As such we should remain part of the same community and not be split off into the other areas of Willingham or Longstanton. This is especially important for those who were here first - the Northstowe Pioneers who would be sadly divorced from Northstowe by option C.”

No.10 “The most important factor is that all those buying houses sold as “Northstowe” should be in the Northstowe parish. I would be happy with A or B: those directly affected should have a significant voice. I think C would be disastrous both for Northstowe, and Longstanton. The established village would be overwhelmed by electors who do not practically relate to them, leading either to voter apathy or loss of identity of the historic village. Therefore, I support only options A or B as plausible options. I would be happy with minor change to b the boundary line near over to meet the needs of existing residents, as long as “Northstowe” houses are within the new parish boundary.”

No.11 “I believe that if you split Northstowe - option C - you will divide a new community who has worked hard for this new city. Bloor homes were one of the first houses to be built and some of us have lived here over 2.5 years. We bought our properties to be part of a new community not an existing one. If Option C was preferred by the District Council they should consider renaming the rest of the new properties to be built this side of B1050 to Longstanton, so it is not mis-marketed. We would also worry about our child not being able to attend Northstowe Secondary School, he is currently one of the first Year 7 intake. If Option C was to go ahead, we would consider selling our home. Personally, I think this is a poor decision to even put this on the options.”

No.12 “Please note that re: the answer provided to question 8 - I would not suggest that wards are appropriate from the start however they may become helpful depending on the number of individuals on the council and the demands on them. I

would also add that, for many people buying a property in Northstowe, it has been an exciting experience watching the community develop and thus a Northstowe council would seem appropriate for all Northstowe phases (including Bloor). This would allow people with an investment in the development of Northstowe to feel part of the Northstowe community.”

No.13 “I am a resident of the Bloor homes which was built as part of Phase 1. I moved from Cambridge and specifically bought my home to be part of the new Northstowe town/city and *NOT* a part of Longstanton so it would feel like being cheated that if the Bloor homes from Phase 1 were not be part of Northstowe.”

No.14 “Option a or b both seem sensible. Busway provides clear boundary giving slight preference to a. Option C is madness and seems contrary to the aims of any reorganisation.”

Responses from Oakington residents re. the green separation:

No.15 “I would like to see the green space widened at the narrow points along Station Road Oakington up to the guided bus way. All trees in the "green space" between Oakington and Westwick parish should be protected with immediate effect.”

No.16 “There must be at least 100 metres green separation between Oakington and Westwick from both Longstanton and Northstowe. This green separation must be within Oakington and Westwick parish.”

No.17 “The options provided do not deal with the two points I consider most important: The proposed boundary with Oakington&Westwick is the same under all options. I believe it is important that the boundary is set such that the green separation between the two parishes is managed by Oakington&Westwick, and NOT Northstowe. This will ensure that it is properly maintained as green separation. Only two options are provided for when the new parish is created. Phase 3A will not be built from 2022 (the latest of the options provided) and therefore this land should not

be removed from Oakington&Westwick until such time as it has been built, which could be as late as 2035. This will ensure that until Northstowe is fully built the land is maintained for the benefit of Oakington&Westwick. The boundary should initially be set around the land which has been developed, and then subsequently extend to include phases as they are built. It should not be set pre-emptively particularly as there is no guarantee that planning will be granted, or that building will take place.”