

Committee: Full Council

Date: 21 February 2023

Title: Future of Local Government in Somerset

Purpose of Report

To receive updates and consider how they see Ilminster post the unification of the District Councils and Somerset County Councils

Recommendation:

Members to note the report

Report:

1. At the January 2023 Full Council meeting Members were asked to note that there will be 18 LCN Areas and that that Ilminster has been grouped with Crewkerne, South Petherton and 33 parishes. Since this meeting it has been agreed that Ashill Parish Council will move into the LCN in which Ilminster is in.
2. The Town Clerk is looking to set up a meeting with the Clerk's of South Petherton and Crewkerne to best see how contact can be made with the Parish Clerk's in the LCN to start working on how the local council's can benefit from their respective LCN's.
3. There is some useful work being carried out in the Pilot LCN's and it is hoped that we may be able to benefit from the work that has already been carried.
4. It was also pointed out to Members that concerns were being raised in respect of the Planning bodies that were being created. This centred around the amount of time that was going to be given to people to speak on each planning item. It would appear that a change of strategy is being considered and that more time will be allocated for both those in favour and those against each planning item to be able to voice their opinions.
5. Other information may be provided by the officers verbally at the meeting.

Mark Tredwin
Town clerk
January 2023