Weekley Parish Council



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25th September 2026

Heather Jackson – Head of Electoral Services
North Northamptonshire Council
Municipal Offices
Bowling Green Road
Kettering
NN15 7QX

Dear Heather,

Re: Community Governance Review 2025/26 – Stage 2 Consultation Response

Further to Weekley Parish Council's Stage 1 submission 12.02.2026, Weekley Parish Council's Stage 2 submission 07.08.2026 and email communications between us from 24.08.2026 regarding the Community Governance Review, please see below our formal response to the Stage 2 ("Your Voice Matters") consultation.

For continuity, I have incorporated our previous response into this submission, together with comments on the specific proposal relating to the boundary between Weekley and Rushton.

Specific proposal concerning the boundary with Rushton

The Parish Council has considered the proposal set out on pages 37 and 38 of the Community Governance Review – Stage 2 Consultation document, concerning the boundary between Rushton and Weekley.

Having considered the detail of this particular proposal, the Parish Council has no objection to the proposed amendment.

The Council understands that the proposal is essentially a minor technical realignment of the parish boundary so that it follows the line of the A43, rather than passing through the developed area.

The Parish Council considers that this is a sensible and practical adjustment now that development has taken place in the area. Aligning the boundary with the A43 would provide a clearer and more readily identifiable boundary and would create a neater and more logical parish boundary.

In practical terms, the proposed amendment is unlikely to make any significant difference to the Parish Council or the community it represents. Nevertheless, the Council considers that, if a boundary adjustment is to be made in this location, following the A43 provides a sensible and clearly identifiable boundary.

Accordingly, Weekley Parish Council supports the specific proposal on pages 37 and 38 to realign the boundary to follow the A43, on the basis that it is a relatively minor technical amendment and does not constitute a substantive alteration to the identity, governance or community of Weekley.

This specific support should not, however, be interpreted as a change to the Parish Council's wider position set out below.

Weekley Parish Council's wider position

The Parish Council strongly objects to any draft recommendations that would substantively alter the existing boundaries of Weekley Parish or transfer any part of the established parish to neighbouring urban or rural parishes.

Our position is based on the following considerations:

Preservation of Local Identity

Weekley is a distinct historic rural parish with a well-established village identity and Conservation Area. Maintaining the existing parish boundary is important to preserving that identity and ensuring that the Parish Council continues to represent its established community.

Effective and Convenient Local Governance

The current parish arrangements enable Weekley Parish Council to represent the interests of its residents effectively. The Council considers that the existing arrangements continue to provide effective and convenient local government and appropriately reflect the identity and interests of the community.

Planning and Community Representation

The current parish boundary supports the Council's role in representing local interests in planning matters, environmental protection and the consideration of future development proposals, including those associated with the emerging North Northamptonshire Local Plan.

The Council considers it important that the Parish Council should retain the ability to represent the interests of the local community in relation to development and other matters affecting Weekley.

The Parish Council therefore requests that, save for the specific A43 realignment described above, its existing historic and administrative boundaries remain unchanged.

The Council's Stage 2 response should also be considered alongside its Stage 1 submission, in which it requested:

- No creation, merger, alteration or abolition affecting the parish.
- No substantive changes to parish boundaries.
- No change to the parish name.
- No change to the year of ordinary elections.
- No increase or decrease in the number of parish councillors.
- No division into parish wards, nor any changes to warding arrangements.
- No changes to ward names, boundaries or councillor allocations.
- No grouping with other parishes or de-grouping arrangements.
- No alternative governance structures to replace or supplement the Parish Council.

The Parish Council's principal concern throughout this review has been the potential for the amalgamation of Weekley Parish Council with another parish or for substantive changes to the parish's established community and boundaries. The Council notes that such an amalgamation does not appear to be proposed in the current Stage 2 recommendations.

In summary, Weekley Parish Council has no objection to the specific minor technical amendment which would realign the boundary with the A43, as set out on pages 37 and 38 of the Stage 2 consultation document. The Council does, however, maintain its position that there should be no wider or substantive alteration to the existing parish arrangements.

The Parish Council would be grateful if you could confirm receipt of this response and that it has been recorded as part of the Stage 2 consultation before the consultation deadline.

Yours sincerely,

Ruby Cole

Mrs Ruby Cole
Clerk & RFO
Weekley Parish Council