

Issue No.	23. Properties on Dunstall Green Road between Ousden and Dalham
Area or Properties Under Review	The boundary between St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath Districts in the vicinity of Dalham and Ousden. The Borough Council does not have the ability to make changes to district boundaries as part of this CGR but can consult on this issue and raise these concerns with the Local Government Boundary Commission and ask them to carry out a Principal Area Boundary Review.
Parishes	Dalham (Forest Heath District Council) Ousden
Borough Wards	Wickhambrook
County Division	Clare
Method of Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter to directly affected residents • Letter to stakeholders (including Dalham PC)
Projected electorate and consequential impacts	Thirteen electors resident in 8 properties.
Analysis	<p>Electors, Ousden Parish Council, Hargrave Parish Council and the County Councillor for Clare Division are all of the view that the boundary should be moved so that the properties are in Ousden parish.</p> <p>A request to review the boundary between two Principal Areas would need to be made to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) and would need to have the support of all parties. Consequently, more consultation with Dalham and FHDC could take place in phase 2.</p>

Summary of comments received during Phase 1
<p>A. Response of Ousden Parish Council</p> <p>Ousden Parish Council have requested a review of the parish boundary with Dalham as it believes that the current boundary does not reflect the interests of the community.</p> <p>The current boundary produces an anomaly as the property of Evered is situated in Pound Green within the village of Ousden but is part of Dalham parish along with the properties from Lilac Cottage to the Barn and Hill House, while Matthew's Rest is in Ousden. Most of the residents in these properties have closer ties with Ousden and the Parish Council believes that changes to the boundary will improve community cohesion and better reflect the fact that geographically these properties are already in Ousden.</p> <p>Ousden Parish Council have asked for this request to be referred to the Boundary Commission for consideration.</p>
<p>B. Response of Hargrave Parish Council</p> <p>Does not object to Ousden's proposal.</p>
<p>C. Local electors</p> <p>Six electors from three of the properties in question made responses during the consultation. They all indicated that the boundary should be moved so that the</p>

properties are in Ousden parish and as such in the borough of St Edmundsbury.

They gave the following reasons:

- Reflect patterns of everyday life for those living and working in the area, building upon what new and existing communities have in common (cited by 3)
- Create a strong sense of community identity (cited by 3)
- Give easy access to good quality local services for new and existing residents (cited by 3)
- Generate interest in parish affairs and improve participation in elections, local organisations and community activities (cited by 2)
- Improve the capacity of a parish or town council to deliver better services and to represent the community's interests effectively (cited by 1)

Supporting their preferences, these respondents commented:

- *"Schooling for children."*
- *"Main concern is to get children to the correct school especially more than one."*
- *"Schooling – nearer Bury St Edmunds and associated schools than Newmarket. 2 miles from the village of Dalham and less than half a mile from Ousden."*
- *"This would clarify education service in the village, as we have to attend a school 8 miles away rather than 3 miles and where the other children in the village attend."*

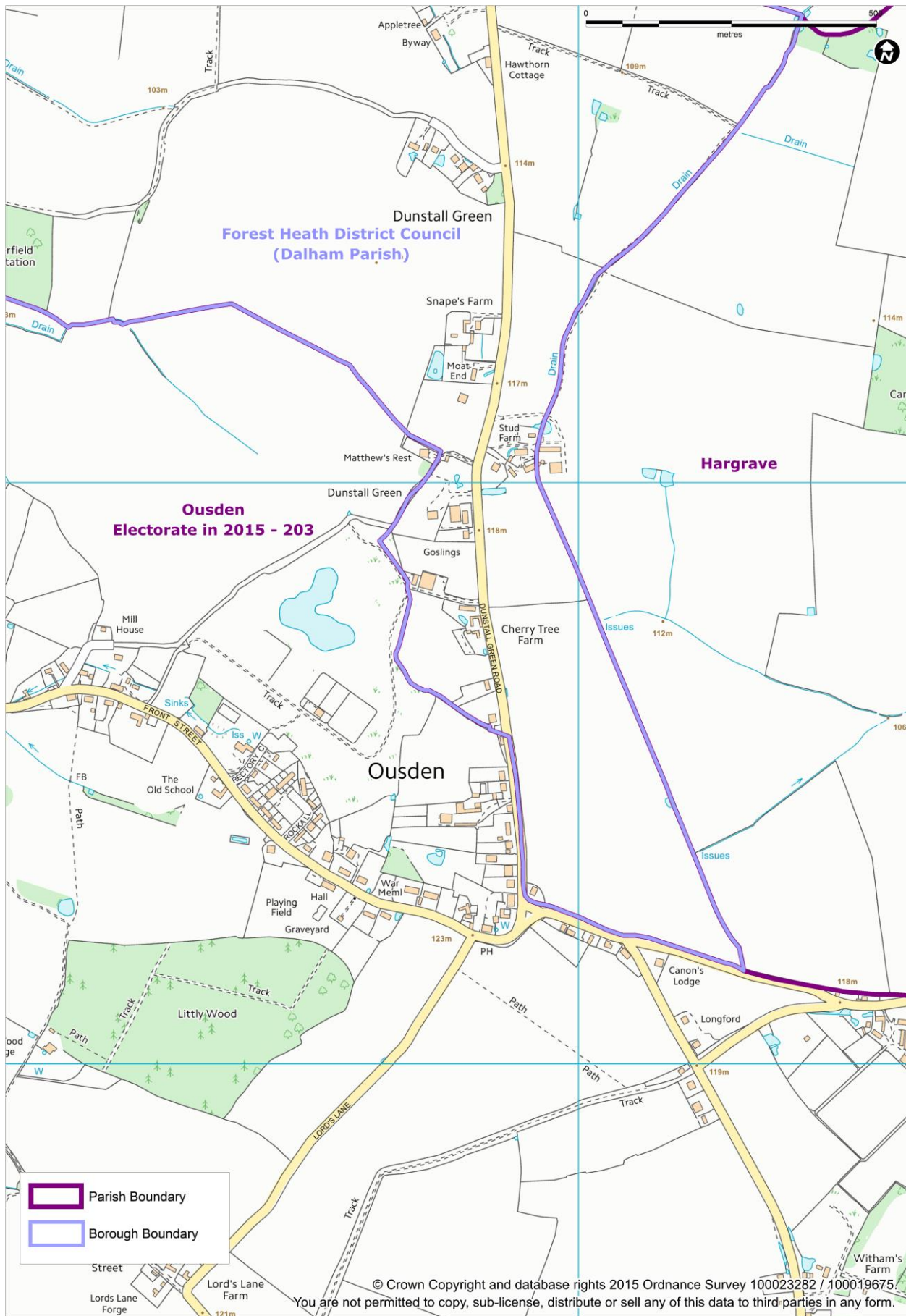
D. Cllr Mary Evans (Clare Division)

Supports the view that the boundary should be moved so that the properties are in Ousden parish as these properties are much more closely linked with Ousden.

E. Cllr Lisa Chambers (Newmarket and Red Lodge Division, Forest Heath District)

No comments to make at this stage as she had not been able to discuss this matter with Parish Councillors from Dalham.

Map overleaf



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