

Community Governance Review for Hilgay Parish

Second Consultation Analysis and Results

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1. Background

The Borough Council received a valid Community Governance petition from the electors of Ten Mile Bank Ward of Hilgay Parish.

The change suggested in the petition requests that Hilgay Parish and its existing wards of Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank are reorganised into two separate parishes with respective councils, split along existing parish and ward boundaries.

The Borough Council have a statutory duty to conduct a Community Governance Review to assess and make a decision in response to this request.

The Terms of Reference for the review required a consultation. The purpose of the consultation was to gather opinions on the current governance arrangements in the parish of Hilgay, the proposal to alter those arrangements and if responses suggested alternatives to the proposal.

The first consultation opened on 10th March 2025 and terminated on 20th April 2026. The first consultation received 84 total submissions, with 93 respondents when taking into account submissions under joint names and excluding duplicate submissions. 62 of the 93 respondents were from the Ten Mile Bank Ward.

46 of 62 (74%) respondents from the Ten Mile Bank Ward supported the proposal of separating parishes. 30 of 31 respondents (97%) from Hilgay Ward supported retaining the current structure.

2. Methodology

The second consultation opened on 18th January 2026 and terminated on 1st March 2026.

The Borough Council welcomed representations from any person or body who wished to comment or make proposals on any aspect of the matters included in the Review.

Representations could be made in the following ways:

Online: Dedicated online survey on the Borough Council's website.

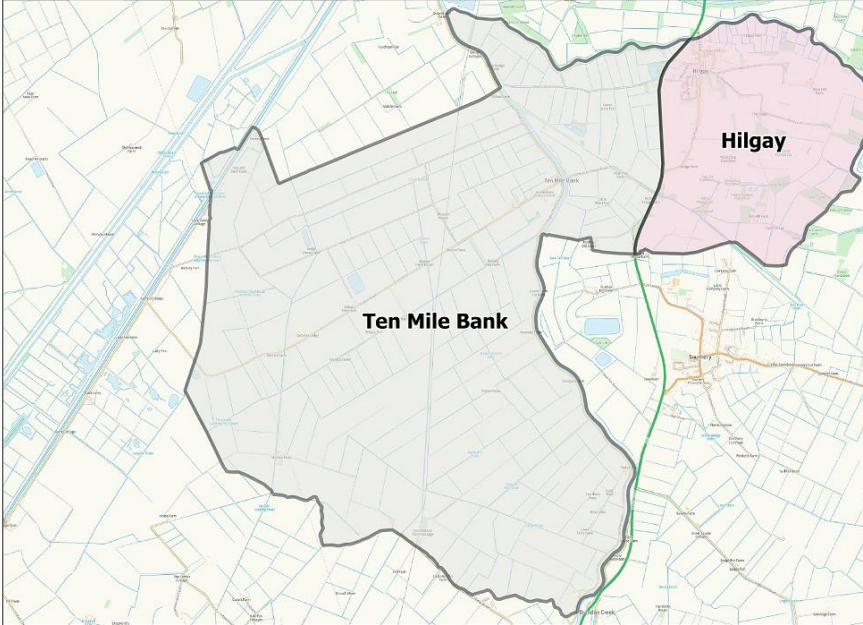
By Email: elections@west-norfolk.gov.uk

By Post: Electoral Registration Officer, The Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, King's Court, Chapel Street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 1EX

2.1 Online Survey Questions

Question Number	Question / Information Required
1.	Please enter your name (optional)
2.	Please enter your postcode
3.	Would you like to be kept informed of future proposals relating to this review by e-mail?
4.	If yes, please provide your e-mail address

Here are the proposals, should a new ‘Ten Mile Bank Parish Council’ be formed:

Question Number	Question / Information Required
5.	<p><u>Parish Boundaries</u></p> <p><i>It is proposed that the boundaries for Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank Parish Councils be based on existing ward boundaries.</i></p> <p>(see map below)</p>  <p><small>Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk © Crown copyright and database rights 2026 Ordnance Survey AC0000815224</small></p> <p>In the event that Hilgay Parish be divided into two separate parish councils, do you agree that using the existing ward boundaries provides the best way of dividing the existing parish council?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree - Disagree - Don't know
6.	<p>Please tell us why you think this or if you have any other comments or proposals.</p>

7.	<p><u>Parish Councillor numbers (maximum) – Ten Mile Bank Parish Council</u></p> <p>Ten Mile Bank Ward currently has 4 seats on Hilgay Parish Council. A separate Parish Council must have a minimum of 5 seats, although it could be higher.</p> <p>Issues to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A larger number usually ensures a wider range of views are taken into account when making decisions. - Whether residents of Ten Mile Bank can identify enough people to support a separate Parish Council and become member of a Parish Council? - The number of seats can always be changed in the future by the new Parish Council. - Ten Mile Bank Parish Council would not be divided into wards. <p><i>It is proposed that Ten Mile Bank Parish Council will consist of 5 seats/councillors.</i></p> <p>What do you think of this proposal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree - Disagree - Don't know
8.	<p>Please tell us why you think this or if you have any other comments or proposals.</p>
9.	<p><u>Parish Councillor numbers (maximum) – Hilgay Parish Council</u></p> <p>Hilgay Ward of Hilgay Parish Council currently has 9 seats/councillors. It is proposed to keep this number the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of seats can always be changed in the future by the new Parish Council (via a new Community Governance Review). - Hilgay Parish Council would not be divided into wards. <p><i>It is proposed that Hilgay Parish Council will consist of 9 seats/councillors.</i></p> <p>What do you think of this proposal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree - Disagree - Don't know

10.	Please tell us why you think this or if you have any other comments or proposals.
11.	<p><u>Parish Council Assets</u></p> <p><i>All current Parish Council assets would need to be shared between Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank Parish Councils.</i></p> <p><i>It is proposed as follows:</i></p> <p><i>If the asset is fixed (such as a building or field), the asset will be allocated to the Council according to the proposed boundaries of Hilgay or Ten Mile Bank Parish Councils.</i></p> <p><i>If the asset is not fixed, the asset will be divided proportionately between both Councils, where it is possible to do so.</i></p> <p>What do you think of this proposal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree - Disagree - Don't know
12.	Please tell us why you think this or if you have any other comments or proposals.
13.	<p><u>Parish Council Precepts</u></p> <p>The current total Parish Council Precept is approx. £34,900 (i.e. this is the Parish Council's income from Council Tax).</p> <p>Hilgay ward currently has 447 properties and Ten Mile Bank ward has 177 properties. That means Hilgay has 72% of the total properties and Ten Mile Bank has 28%.</p> <p>Once set up, a Parish Council can put their own Parish Precept up or down, based on many different local factors/considerations.</p> <p>It is also important to know that the costs of making these changes would have to be met by the Parish Councils.</p> <p>These would likely be higher for Ten Mile Bank Parish Council as setting up a new Council would require funding for a Parish Clerk, insurance, hall hire etc.</p>

	<p><i>It is proposed that (based on the 72/28 split) the initial precepts, based on the average Band D charge, would be approximately:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hilgay £25,100 - Ten Mile Bank £9,800 <p>What do you think of this proposal?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree - Disagree - Don't know
14.	<p>Please tell us why you think this or if you have any other comments or proposals.</p>
15.	<p>With regards to all the proposals made, do you agree that Hilgay Civil Parish and its Parish Council, should be split into two separate parishes and Parish Councils? One serving the existing Hilgay ward and the other serving the existing Ten Mile Bank ward?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree - Disagree - Don't know
16.	<p>Please tell us why you think this or if you have any other FINAL comments to make.</p>

3. Participation

3.1 Submission statistics

Total number of submissions: **67**

Total number of duplicate submissions (more than one similar response from same person/s): **0**

Number of submissions to online survey: **67**

Number of paper survey submissions: **0**

Number of written submissions: **0**

3.2 Respondent statistics

Total number of respondents included on submissions: **68**

Total number of respondents on register of electors: **68**

Total number of respondents on register of electors for Hilgay Ward: **5**

Total number of respondents on register of electors for Ten Mile Bank Ward: **63**

Total number of respondents who submitted a duplicate submission: **0**

3.3 Electoral statistics

Number of registered electors in Hilgay Parish at close of consultation: **1055**

Number of registered electors in Hilgay Ward at close of consultation: **714**

Number of registered electors in Ten Mile Bank Ward at close of consultation: **341**

Percentage of registered electors from Hilgay Parish that made a submission: **6.5%**

Percentage of registered electors from Ten Mile Bank Ward that submitted a response: **18.5%**

Percentage of registered electors from Hilgay Ward that submitted a response: **0.7%**

4. Summary Findings

The total response to the consultation included 67 submissions. Submissions could be made to the online survey, a paper survey distributed by Hilgay Parish Council, and emails received. All responses were to the online survey. When taking into account submissions made under joint names, there were 68 respondents in total.

There were no duplicate submissions.

The majority of respondents were from Ten Mile Bank Ward, 62 out of the 68 in total.

4.1 Responses to question 6

A majority of respondents in both Hilgay Ward and Ten Mile Bank Ward agreed with the proposed boundary. 55 of 68 respondents agreed – **80.88%**.

The most frequent reasons for agreeing with the proposed boundary cited by respondents across wards were:

- It is simple and sensible to separate the boundaries across the A10.
- There is little reason to change the existing boundary across the A10.
- To change the boundary at this point would cause confusion.

4.2 Responses to question 8

A majority of respondents in both wards agreed with the proposal of 5 councillors for Ten Mile Bank Parish Council. 48 of 68 respondents agreed – **70.59%**.

The most frequent reasons for agreeing cited by respondents across wards were:

- 5 aligns with the minimum requirement.
- An odd number of councillors is preferred to break stalemates.
- 5 is a satisfactory amount to provide representation for Ten Mile Bank.
- Ten Mile Bank previously had 5 councillors on the Hilgay Parish Council and there is little reason to change.

Frequent reasons for disagreeing with the proposed number were:

- 7 would be better to account for illness and holiday.
- A bigger number would increase chances of being quorate.

4.3 Responses to question 10

Across wards, respondents were split on the proposal of retaining 9 councillors for Hilgay Parish. 34 out of the total 68 respondents agreed (**50%**). 10 disagreed (**14.71%**), and 24 were did not know (**35.29%**).

The most frequent reasons cited for agreeing were:

- 9 Hilgay councillors is proportionate to the population.
- 9 is the historic amount.

The most frequent reasons cited for disagreeing were:

- Hilgay's smaller land area compared to the proposed Ten Mile Bank boundary requires less councillors.
- Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank should have an equal amount to ensure equal representation.

The most frequent reasons cited for selecting "Don't know" were:

- Concern about finding and retaining councillors.
- The number of Hilgay councillors is not relevant to Ten Mile Bank residents.

4.4 Responses to question 12

A majority of respondents across wards agreed to the proposal of retaining fixed assets within ward boundaries and dividing non fixed assets between both parish Councils proportionately. 54 out of 68 agreed – **79.41%**.

The most frequent reasons cited for agreeing were:

- It is fair for both parishes.
- Respondents do not foresee issues with fixed assets, but would like assurance that non fixed assets will be divided proportionately.

4.5 Responses to question 14

Across wards, respondents were split on the proposed parish council precepts. 36 out of 68 agreed to the proposed precepts (**52.94%**), 17 disagreed (**25%**), and 15 did not know (**22.06%**).

The most frequent reasons cited for agreeing were:

- It is proportionate for precept to be calculated based upon populous.
- Respondents want to clearly see where their tax money is being spent.
- Funds left over from the split should be distributed equally between the two parishes.

The most frequent reasons cited for disagreeing were:

- The precept should be more equal between parishes.
- TMB needs more money as it needs more investment.

The most frequent reasons for selecting "Don't know" were:

- Concern over if the precept calculations accounted for Ten Mile Bank's greater land area.

4.6 Responses to question 16

A large majority of respondents agreed with the proposal of splitting the Ten Mile Bank Ward and Hilgay Wards into two separate parishes. 55 out of 68 agreed to the proposal – **80.88%**.

The most frequent reasons cited for agreeing with the split were:

- Funding not being distributed proportionally between Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank Wards.

- Ten Mile Bank being the 'poor relation'.
- Ten Mile Bank being forgotten or an afterthought.
- Ten Mile Bank needing their own governance/decision making power.

The most frequent reasons cited for disagreeing with the split were:

- Loss of community cohesion.
- Loss of historical continuity.
- Loss of cooperation between wards.

5. Results of online survey submissions

5.1 Summary and analysis of responses – Online survey

Number of responses submitted: **67**

Number of responses submitted from an individual: **66**

Number of responses submitted in joint names: **1**

Total number of respondents: **68**

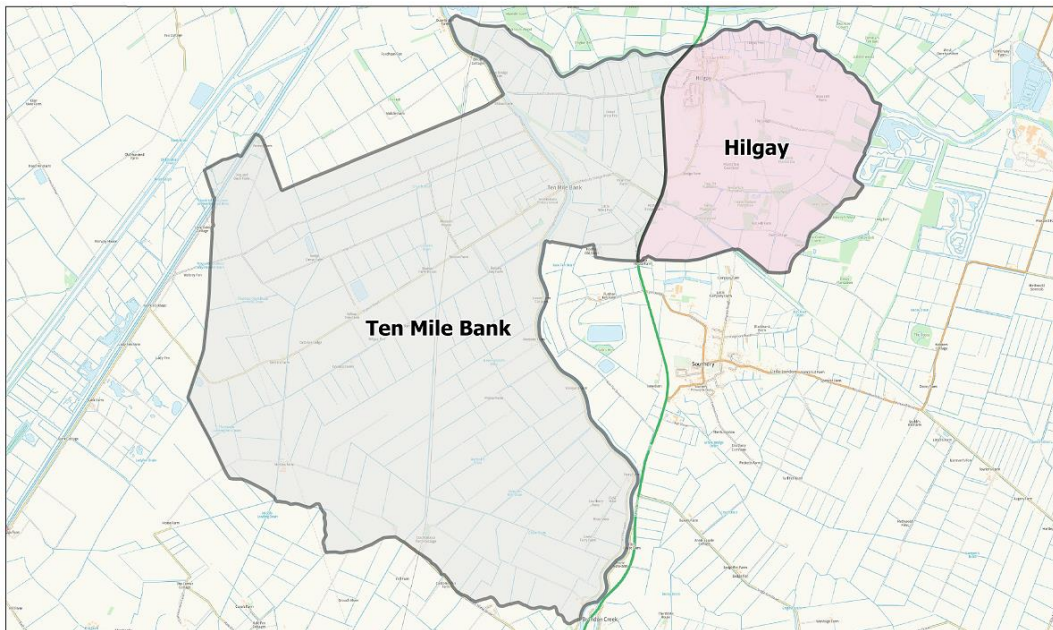
5.2 Analysis of question 5:

Summary

A large majority of respondents agreed with the proposed boundary.

It is proposed that the boundaries for Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank Parish Councils be based on existing ward boundaries.

(see map below)



Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



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19/01/2026

In the event that Hilgay Parish be divided into two separate parish councils, do you agree that using the existing ward boundaries provides the best way of dividing the existing parish council?

- ***Agree***
- ***Disagree***
- ***Don't know***

Overall response analysis:

Response Option	Responses	%
Agree	55	80.88
Disagree	5	7.35
Don't know	8	11.77
Total	68	100

Comparison by ward:

Response Option	Hilgay Ward Responses	Ten Mile Bank Ward Responses
Agree	4	51
Disagree	1	4
Don't know	1	7

5.3 Responses to question 6:

Please tell us why you think this or if you have any other comments or proposals. (in relation to question 5).

Number of responses: 34

Percentage of respondents who answered the question: 50% (34 out of 68 skipped)

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appears to be the common sense way to separate both areas. Presumably sensible financially too? - Seems sensible as the a10 is a natural boundary marker for both wards
Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ten Mile Bank will not be able to maintain at large area,
--- End of Hilgay Ward responses to question 6 ---

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is the logical step, it is also the most cost effective for the Borough, I see now advantage in changing it. - I see no benefit is splitting or altering the boundaries

- This is a sensible and pragmatic way to divide.
- the existing ward boundaries are easily defined by the A10, and river great Ouse which make a clear division of the two wards. Hilgay is a much more concentrated area of dwellings, whereas ten Mile Bank is a far larger area with a large number of fairly isolated properties, once outside of the nucleus of the main part of the village.
- think TMB should have its own Parish COUNCIL
- the A10 provides a clearly defined cut off.
- I have seen the map that's been proposed.
- why make changes to something that has been around for years
- Seems sensible as the a10 is a natural boundary marker for both wards
- The boundaries show each area and are split as per the villages
- It has become obvious in the way that Hilgay councillors have conducted themselves, that Ten Mile Bank would be better off with their own separate council
- Best way
- A sensible split along boundaries that already exist.
- It seems the most straight forward way to divide into two separate parish councils.
- It is the easiest way to make 2 separate parish councils.
- Agree Easiest option
- Keep existing boundaries
- For too many years Ten Mile Bank has been poorly looked after when it comes to facilities. I realise there are more people living in Hilgay but this doesn't mean we should be forgotten. We hardly have any lights in the village, the playing field is in a very poor state and in general the money has not been spent here. There was a sign as you leave the village, years ago, towards Welney, telling you that the wash was flooded. This has been gone for a long time and the sign on the bridge is confusing and it doesn't work. We, as a village, can look after ourselves, thank you.
- The a10 is the obvious boundary for both villages of Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank
- Each parish needs to be treated even and fairly.
- Easiest division
- Makes sense either up to the A10

- Funding for each parish would be separate, and this would be farer
- Too confusing to change boundaries
- These are the established boundaries of the 2 villages that have never come into question so see no reason why they should be changed
- These boundaries are existing boundaries and the A10 makes a very decisive and obvious boundary between the villages

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 5

- I strongly oppose the proposal to split Hilgay Parish Council into two separate parishes. I have lived in Ten Mile Bank for [REDACTED], and throughout that time the parish has functioned perfectly well as one community. While no parish is without occasional disagreements, these have never justified dividing the villages. There has been no widespread demand from residents for such a drastic change.

It is my firm belief that the councillors pushing for this split are not acting with the best interests of the wider community at heart. A division of this nature risks creating unnecessary administrative costs, duplication of resources, and further fragmentation within what should remain a united parish.

Any perceived divide within the parish has not been structural or geographical, it stems from individuals holding onto past grievances. Creating two parishes will not resolve personal disagreements; it will simply formalise and deepen divisions that do not represent the majority of residents.

Hilgay has always been stronger as one parish. Rather than institutionalising division, efforts should be focused on cooperation, communication, and moving forward together for the benefit of the whole community.

- The question is designed to get the answer that the writer wants.
- There are parts of the proposed Ten Mile Bank boundary which have always been "Hilgay" - before the A10 Bypass was created ... such as Dents Farm Shop, Hilgay - now Baytree Hilgay - and the Fishing Lakes, and what locals call the Shoulder of Mutton ... just feels like another part of our heritage is being taken away from us.

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Don't know" in question 5

- They should absolutely not be split

--- End of Ten Mile Bank responses to question 6 ---

5.4 Analysis of question 7:

Parish Councillor numbers (maximum) – Ten Mile Bank Parish Council

Ten Mile Bank Ward currently has 4 seats on Hilgay Parish Council. A separate Parish Council must have a minimum of 5 seats, although it could be higher.

Issues to consider:

- **A larger number usually ensures a wider range of views are taken into account when making decisions.**
- **Whether residents of Ten Mile Bank can identify enough people to support a separate Parish Council and become member of a Parish Council?**
- **The number of seats can always be changed in the future by the new Parish Council.**
- **Ten Mile Bank Parish Council would not be divided into wards.**

It is proposed that Ten Mile Bank Parish Council will consist of 5 seats/councillors.

What do you think of this proposal?

- **Agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Don't know**

Overall response analysis:

Response option	Responses	%
Agree	48	70.59
Disagree	16	23.53
Don't know	4	5.88
Total	68	100

Comparison by ward:

Response Option	Hilgay Ward Responses	Ten Mile Bank Ward Responses
Agree	4	44
Disagree	1	15
Don't know	1	3

5.5 Responses to question 8:

Number of responses: 36

Percentage of respondents who answered the question: 53.73% (32 out of 68 skipped)

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 7

- If 5 is ideal, that should be adhered too. Plus as mentioned above, an extra view point could add value. Also 5 would break any stalemate on decisions if needed, rather than an even number
- A parish council needs to represent the opinion of the residents of the ward and 5 should be a minimum requirement
- Currently there are no TMB councillors on the Parish Council - how are 5 people going to be elected and represent Ten Mile Bank fairly as those who were previously sitting on the Parish Council are the same ones who are pushing for the split and don't appear to be looking at the logistics - just the emotional knee jerk reaction

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 7

- You have five of the old Parish councillors who resigned as they did not get what they wanted, the demolition of Hilgay toilet block, I personally think finding Parish councillors who will be there for the ward not for themselves will be very difficult

--- End of Hilgay Ward responses to question 8 ---

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 7

- I was a parish councillor previously but left as when mentioning ten mile bank my views were shut down. This is the reason I think Ten mile bank needs its own parish council
- 5 seems a sensible number, and I don't foresee any issue in finding 5 cllrs for the new TMB PC.
- I would prefer to see 6 councillors for Ten Mile Bank, this should ensure that the PC could meet and carry out its responsibilities with sufficient number in the event of holidays or sickness/other reason for absence. There would be no reason to suppose that sufficient number of councillors could not be found, bearing in mind the initial support on the Petition to open the Governance review, it is fair to suppose among those would be residents who would be happy to step up to serve on the Parish Council if they felt it would be for the good of the village and that their voice would count for something.
- The councillors would be residents of the village and would be acting in Ten Miles best interests.

- I think it's important ten mile bank is represented by its own people with its best interests at heart
- I agree with an odd number. 5 is enough, but 7 may spread the load a little easier. I will support whatever is agreed though.
- We had 4-5 people from TMB on the parish council before. But they left due to whatever reason. So we would easily have the right number of councillors
- See previous page
- Its a good baseline, but its arguable whether it would be better to have 7, so that meetings during hoildays and with peoples work commitments will still be able to be quorate. I don't envisage finding Cllrs to be an issue in Ten Mile Bank, for our own Parish Council, as we would be able to actually make decisions for our village. At present there is a lack of them because the present set up effectively prevents Ten Mile Banks voices from being heard, as the Hilgay Cllrs can always out vote the Ten Mile ones, which is a big disensitive to joining.
- Seems reasonable. If TMBank become a separate PC, we feel sure we can be more efficient making decisions and prioritising the needs of the community with 5 councillors./
- A suitable number of councillors to run our parish
- Seems a fair number of councillors to run the new parish and represent the residents views
- As above, more views are expressed when more councillors are in place and there's safety in numbers. Thank you
- Sounds sensible more so than current set up.
- Good amount to represent such a large new parish
- TMB should have as many seats as Hilgay
- We need proper representation in TMB- Hilgay always puts their own interests first
- Yes there have historically been 5 Ten Mile Bank residents on the village council, it is only in recent yes that TMB has not been fairly representated. There will be a number of local people that will be willing to form a TMB council
- There was 5 councillors from Ten Mile Bank on Hilgay parish council so I see no reason why they wouldn't be able to fill the council seats if a split was agreed the only reason there are no residents from Ten Mile Bank currently on the parish council is because of the imbalance of councillor numbers means votes are always in the interest of Hilgay and does not give a fair representation of Ten Mile Bank.

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 7

- Five is okay but I wonder if perhaps six might be worth considering in case of illness etc so there is some flexibility.
- There are more than enough passionate people who live in Ten Mile Bank who would love to be a part of the political process. This will not be another parish council that struggles to fill seats. I think to make it at least 6 or a minimum of 6 would ensure that the smooth running would always be maintained even if there were two absentees which would leave at least 4.
- Better to have 7 seats to cover for sickness or long term illness
- 7 would be a better number to cover sickness and long term illness
- Think at least 7 just in case people go on holiday or is off sick.
- May need more than 5, what if one of the councillors is on holiday
- I believe 7 councillors should be the starting position. Using this number allows for a good chance of quorate meetings on every occasion. Having 7 councillors would provide a good spread of knowledge and opinions for the new parish
- It should be bigger
- I feel the people that have proposed this plan are the people who expect to be on the parish council. As someone who had lived in Ten Mile Bank, and seen one of the members chair the council, I would wholeheartedly disagree with this. It would be an unfair representation of Ten Mile Bank.
- This divide should not take place, representatives are out dated and out of touch. They don't actually know what they want or why they want it. There are far more important things going on in the village/s they could be fighting
- The parish needs less political interference and lower taxation.
- I feel that this original Community Governance was unnecessary when the existing arrangement has worked well for generations. The original consultation and this current consultation are costing the Borough Council, and thereby the taxpayer money - to then say that a new Ten Mile Bank Parish Council could instigate another Community Governance Review if they wanted more councillors would be at more cost to the taxpayer, when I feel that the whole process was unnecessary in the first place.

I only disagree because I don't feel that the split should be happening at all

--- End of Ten Mile Bank responses to question 8 ---

5.6 Analysis of question 9:

Parish Councillor numbers (maximum) – Hilgay Parish Council

Hilgay Ward of Hilgay Parish Council currently has 9 seats/councillors. It is proposed to keep this number the same.

- **The number of seats can always be changed in the future by the new Parish Council (via a new Community Governance Review).**
- **Hilgay Parish Council would not be divided into wards.**

It is proposed that Hilgay Parish Council will consist of 9 seats/councillors.

What do you think of this proposal?

- **Agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Don't know**

Overall response analysis:

Response option	Responses	%
Agree	34	50
Disagree	10	14.71
Don't know	24	35.29
Total	68	100

Comparison by ward:

Response Option	Hilgay Ward Responses	Ten Mile Bank Ward Responses
Agree	5	29
Disagree	0	10
Don't know	1	23

5.7 Responses to question 10:

Number of responses: 30

Percentage of respondents who answered the question: 44.78% (38 out of 68 skipped)

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes, nine is a great number for the size of our village - The parish councillors continue to work hard to ensure both villages are treated fairly... a minimum of 9 Parish Councillors representing Hilgay is proportionate and effective
Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Don't know" in question 9

- 9 for the village seems excessive. Plus I'm aware that finding and retaining councillors has historically been hit and miss. A smaller number could be easier to maintain and manage.

--- End of Hilgay Ward responses to question 10 ---

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 9

- Seems like a sensible idea.
- If the parish splits this will not affect ten mile bank
- It seems sensible.
- Makes sense to keep it the same.
- By not altering the number of councillors, Hilgay parish can then continue as it always has
- This is what they have been working with so should acceptable to them.
- If we split, then what Hilgay do and how many councillors they elect, will be totally up to them. If we stay joined, then equal numbers of councillors for Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank, will be essential to see fair play and equal decisions for both villages.
- As long as it's in a fair proportion to the amount of residents in each parish.
- For the size of the community of Hilgay this will be sufficient to form a true demographic allowing all members of the community to be represented
- This is a good maximum number to give a fair and balanced view across the demographic and the number of residents. Although I think they would equally be able to manage on a lower number of seats.

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 9

- Hilgay has a smaller area. Running of the two areas ran on 9, it should be equal for both councils. They do not need more than TMB.
- Fine if this proposal does go through, but if it does not then Hilgay having 9 seats would mean that Ten Mile Bank would be under represented.
- With a smaller parish, Hilgay requires fewer councillors - suggest 5 would be appropriate
- Their proposed parish area is small, why would they need that many councilors? 5 councilors would be sufficient
- It should be equal. It seems that Hilgay get all the pie, and TMB get one or two crumbs

- If they still have 9 councillors they will still try to gain preference
- The number of parish councillors is too high in comparison to the number of TMB parish councillors.
- The parish needs less political interference and lower taxes
- I only disagree because I don't feel that the split should be happening at all

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Don't know" in question 9

- Not sure if Hilgay need as many. The village is a little bigger but not sure if everyone is interested
- Could possibly reduce as it only covers 1 area not 2
- I am with TMB so however many they have is not relevant to me and my thoughts on having TMB separate
- I don't live in Hilgay so cannot comment as to how many members are needed.
- I don't have an opinion on how many numbers Hilgay should have but I do feel that Ten Mile Bank councillors were outnumbered and not listened to.
- This divide should not take place, representatives are out dated and out of touch. They don't actually know what they want or why they want it. There are far more important things going on in the village/s they could be fighting
- That is for people of Hilgay to decide.

--- End of Ten Mile Bank responses to question 10 ---

5.8 Analysis to question 11:

Parish Council Assets

All current Parish Council assets would need to be shared between Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank Parish Councils.

It is proposed as follows:

If the asset is fixed (such as a building or field), the asset will be allocated to the Council according to the proposed boundaries of Hilgay or Ten Mile Bank Parish Councils.

If the asset is not fixed, the asset will be divided proportionately between both Councils, where it is possible to do so.

What do you think of this proposal?

- **Agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Don't know**

Overall response analysis:

Response option	Responses	%
Agree	54	79.41
Disagree	8	11.77
Don't know	6	8.82
Total	68	100

Comparison by ward:

Response Option	Hilgay Ward Responses	Ten Mile Bank Ward Responses
Agree	5	49
Disagree	0	8
Don't know	1	5

5.9: Responses to question 12:

Number of responses: 24

Percentage of respondents who answered the question: 35.82 (44 out of 68 skipped)

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 11
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sensible option- It's a sensible way of sharing assets

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Don't know" in question 11

- I think dividing maintenance equipment will be very difficult, plus do you so the Parish printer in half?

--- End of Hilgay Ward responses to question 12 ---

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 11

- Clearly fixed stay as is the only other assets would be the equipment and I would hope however is running the two councils can come to an agreement on the matter.
- I think we have paid our precept and this should be split equally
- Again sensible.
- This seems fair. But please bear in mind, a lot more money has been ploughed into Hilgay over the years! This money that TMB residents have paid in to.
- Makes sense. Most things in TMB is fixed so potentially wouldn't cause any major changes
- There might be some issues with the tools that the existing PC holds. I would suggest that a monetary value to the same cost of the tools is transferred to the new Ten Mile Bank PC. (This includes the assets that the clerk uses). What mechanism is in place to prevent the existing council from running down the funds if the announcement of the split is made?
- The fixed assets are not a problem. I can foresee that the division of the non fixed assets will present more of an issue. How is it intended to divide these up? Will a proportion of the monetary value of the 'as new' cost be used to calculate what the ratio will be?
- The fixed assets are no problem. More of an issue could be with the division of the non fixed assets. How will the monetary assets remaining be divided? How will it be calculated-what ratio will be used, so that Ten Mile Bank is not at any disadvantage?
- Only difficulty will be assets such as tools and equipment, hedge cutters, spraying equipment etc. The monetary value should be assessed and half the value given to the parish that does not retain the tools
- It seems fair
- Sounds fair.
- It makes sense
- Each need to be shared as there is insufficient assets to be owned individually
- As long as the current council can provide a true and accurate list detailing all movable assets so that it can be assessed verified and split fairly by an independent body ensuring proportionate separation is true.

- The non fixed assets should be divided equally by the proportion of village not just expected to be 50/50 split. For example Hilgay has a larger proportion of residents.

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected “Disagree” in question 11

- Understand fixed asset cannot be divided, however other assets such as maintenance tools etc should be valued and a similar financial amount be allocated to the parish that is not retaining that physical item
- The suggestion that fixed assets should simply be allocated according to physical and geographical boundaries may appear straightforward, but it fails to recognise that these assets were funded, maintained, and supported collectively by the whole parish over many years. Residents from across the existing parish have contributed through council tax and community involvement, regardless of where an asset happens to sit geographically. Allocating buildings or land purely by boundary lines does not reflect that shared investment.

Similarly, the proposal to divide non-fixed assets proportionately “where possible” raises practical and fairness concerns. Many assets are not easily divisible without diminishing their value or usefulness. A proportional split may also fail to account for historic contributions, long-term planning, or future financial sustainability.

This approach risks creating unnecessary disputes and administrative complexity, rather than serving the best interests of residents. It reinforces division instead of recognising that these assets were acquired and developed for the benefit of one unified community.

For many years, the parish has functioned effectively as a single entity. Dividing assets in this way not only formalises a split that many residents do not support, but also disregards the shared history and joint investment that built them in the first place.

- Hilgay already have their own playing field. Ten Mile Bank will have to buy their own field. Assets sharing needs to take this into account. There are reserve funds Hilgay hold that were set aside for purchase of land. That fund needs to be passed over entirely. Also gardening tools that Hilgay hold, should be shared equally or an equivalent amount of money paid to Ten Mile Bank new parish.
- Hilgay are spending a great deal of funds prior to the proposed split. There are many fixed assets in Hilgay paid for from TMB precept funds and very little fixed assets supplied for TMB. Therefore all assets should be valued and an equal split of monetary value divided between new parishes.
- The assets belong to the private taxpayer and should be run by them. Not allocated to self righteous busy bodies

--- End of Ten Mile Bank responses to question 12 ---

5.10 Analysis of question 13:

Parish Council Precepts

The current total Parish Council Precept is approx. £34,900 (i.e. this is the Parish Council's income from Council Tax).

Hilgay ward currently has 447 properties and Ten Mile Bank ward has 177 properties. That means Hilgay has 72% of the total properties and Ten Mile Bank has 28%.

Once set up, a Parish Council can put their own Parish Precept up or down, based on many different local factors/considerations.

It is also important to know that the costs of making these changes would have to be met by the Parish Councils.

These would likely be higher for Ten Mile Bank Parish Council as setting up a new Council would require funding for a Parish Clerk, insurance, hall hire etc.

It is proposed that (based on the 72/28 split) the initial precepts, based on the average Band D charge, would be approximately

- ***Hilgay £25,100***
- ***Ten Mile Bank £9,80***

What do you think of this proposal?

- ***Agree***
- ***Disagree***
- ***Don't know***

Overall response analysis:

Response option	Responses	%
Agree	36	52.94
Disagree	17	25
Don't know	15	22.06
Total	68	100

Comparison by ward:

Response Option	Hilgay Ward Responses	Ten Mile Bank Ward Responses
Agree	5	31
Disagree	1	16
Don't know	0	15

5.11 Responses to question 14:

Number of responses: 32

Percentage of respondents who answered the question: 47.76 (36 out of 68 skipped)

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 13

- Makes sense to divide up according to populous
 - Appears to be proportionate and fair based on population
- I'm not sure those wishing to split have considered the financial impact on Ten Mile Bank residents

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 13

- Hillgate Parish maintenance officer spent more hours in time cutting road side grass etc in Ten Mile Bank then Hilgay is one example

--- End of Hilgay Ward responses to question 14 ---

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 13

- This is a fair assessment
 - At least the precept will be spent in Ten mile bank as the village gets very little.
 - This is a sensible precept level for TMB, which will allow the setting up of the council and to look after our Parish, and also allow our Parish money to be spent on things for our parish. Sadly Hilgay will find that without TMB funding their Parish that they are going to have to seriously consider how they spend their money in the future.
 - it would be preferable to have a definitive amount noted rather than approximate or at lease know by what percentage this could vary.
- Hilgay also has to cover cost of Clerk, Hall Hire and Insurance, not to mention Maintenance costs for the village, however for Ten Mile Bank, these costs should be minimal as the needs of the village are somewhat less, bearing in mind the lack of amenities, and far less area requiring maintenance, and the duties and hours for the clerk would also be far less than expected of the current Clerk, under the existing Parish Council.
- This would be perfect for Ten Mile Bank. It will be great to see details of every penny spent as it was under a previous chairman, unfortunately now on the current hilgay parrish minutes we have no idea where our tax money is going.
 - It looks like a viable amount for the new Ten Mile Bank PC. Even with the set-up costs, the figure looks sustainable going forward. Presumably any increase in precept that is

introduced before the split will be taken into account, so this figure may be larger?

- If that is the percentage then so be it. Ten Mile Bank can be frugal with it's funds, unlike Hilgay, who currently spends all precept on Hilgay projects and none on the needs of TMB
- I am concerned about how any funds left, if we gain an independent PC, will be shared out, so that Ten Mile Bank is not disadvantaged during the time it takes to get independence. I am also concerned with what will be put in place to prevent the existing PC from spending all the funds between the decision to split, and the start of the separate Councils.
- If TMBank gains independence, what measures will be put in place to prevent the funds being spent by the existing PC before the 2 wards of Hilgay parish are split into 2 separate PCs and monetary assets are divided?
- Fair split of funds
- The balance of money should be shared in relationship to the number of people who paid in. Once the parish is split, it will be up to each village how much they set their precept and how it is spent. Hilgay seem happy to spend and waste the money Ten Mile Bank residents raise.
- The split seems fair based on percentage of properties in each village
- This will hopefully be looked at in the future and split fairly in both parishes.
- Precept can only be based upon Government rules – Households
- I believe this is a true and accurate ratio for the split
- A local resident of Ten mile bank and ex councillor very kindly showed a breakdown of costs associated and a prediction of what the ten mile bank council would need and why at an initial meeting and it was almost exactly as this proposal is so I believe it is fair and right amount.

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected “Disagree” in question 13

- Ten mile Bank should get more money. It urgently needs investment eg a new kids play area that was last installed in 1975? Very little of my council tax seems to go back into our village which is sad.

Plus ten mile Bank is the only village in the country with no high speed internet !! Perhaps a separate parish council can further this cause. The MP Terry Jermry is totally useless.
- I feel that finances need to looked into. Over the years more money has been spent on Hilgay, with TMB residents missing out. Yes, Hilgay has a higher population, but TMB shouldn't be penalised for needing to be independent.
- I don't agree the precept should be able to go up.
- Hilgay may have more properties but ten mile bank has a larger area

- It should be more equal
- TMB should not have to pay more as they have always seen Hilgay gain most
- This is an irrelevant point as there is no break down of the costs. If the proportional costs show that it is beneficial to the smaller parish to stay part of the larger parish then it is impossible to make an informed choice based on these figures alone.

Duplication is never a cost effective solution and those that have driven this proposal have done so for short sighted vanity purposes and nothing to do with the good of the village itself.

- Council tax is an illegal form of taxation so these numbers are irrelevant
- It doesn't appear the split of precept money is equal to the percentage of properties ... is the precept normally worked out on the number of people or properties?

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Don't know" in question 13

- Makes sense having to charge more for setting up a new parish but we have the relevant hall, and people so I think it would be fine
- Even though ten mile has less properties we have a much larger area to look after surely that could be accounted for??
- Seems odd we get do low considering we have a huge amount of land

--- End of Ten Mile Bank responses to question 14 ---

5.12 Analysis of question 15:

With regards to all the proposals made, do you agree that Hilgay Civil Parish and its Parish Council, should be split into two separate parishes and Parish Councils? One serving the existing Hilgay ward and the other serving the existing Ten Mile Bank ward?

- **Agree**
- **Disagree**
- **Don't know**

Overall response analysis:

Response option	Responses	%
Agree	55	80.88
Disagree	12	17.65
Don't know	1	1.47
Total	68	100

Comparison by ward:

Response Option	Hilgay Ward Responses	Ten Mile Bank Ward Responses
Agree	4	51
Disagree	2	10
Don't know	0	1

5.13 Responses to question 16:

Number of responses: 41

Percentage of respondents who answered the question: 61.19 (27 out of 68 skipped)

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Always been in favour. Mainly because it will mean each village has governance over its own decisions. - It was Ten Mile Bank that instigated the splitting of the wards which has caused a lot of bad feeling between the 2 sextions of the PC which may be difficult to overcome ,and as a Hilgay resident I feel a going of separate ways would allow both councils to function in a more efficient manner - Hilgay parish councillors have been subject to a lot of abuse from the resigning TMB ex councillors and it may make it difficult for the joint council to continue. So sad that this has happened after 180 years of the joint council.

Hilgay Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 15

- Hilgay Parish Council has always worked well, it was just that three Hilgay Parish councillors wanted a public debate on the demolition of the Hilgay toilet block,

The five Ten Mile Bank, all resigned on that evening, I feel strongly it's wrong to dictate what will happen in a village, also not doing what the Village would like, that is what we are there for.
- The Parish Council has worked well for decades ensuring both villagers are well served Ten Mile Bank School has recently closed and the children attend Hilgay Riverside Academy - the Parish Cemetery is also in Hilgay as are the allotments. Splitting the parish may disadvantage Ten Mile Bank residents as they may not be eligible for village rates

--- End of Hilgay Ward responses to question 16 ---

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Agree" in question 15

- I have lived in this area for over [REDACTED] first in Hilgay then in Ten Mile Bank [REDACTED]. I really feel that times have changed and our small community should have its own Parish Council to have full control of its finances and future, the two communities can still interact with other and do things together, it's just that we will be able to make the decisions which are important for our community.
Thank you.
[REDACTED]
- As per previous comments I was a parish councillor previously and it was always very one sided in Hilgays favour.
- For far too long the residents of the Ten Mile Bank Ward have been funding projects in Hilgay, which have no benefit whatsoever to Ten Mile Bank Ward residents. Indeed it appears that recently the existing parish Council have more or less forgotten that Ten Mile Bank exists, and are unaware of things that really effect Ten Mile Bank. They only consider things in Hilgay. With a new Ten Mile Bank Parish Council, the precept money that is raised will be spent where it is raised, which will have a long lasting improvement effect on our community.
- It has been a long held wish by many residents of Ten Mile Bank that it should have its own council, 4 representatives against 9 has always meant that when Hilgay ward has even just half of its allowance of councillors sitting, it would have the deciding vote on any decisions made, leaving Ten Mile Bank on the back foot.
- Ten Mile Bank may be smaller but the village has things that need to be done the same as Hilgay however it appears that Hilgay tended to get the majority done while Ten Mile Bank was ignored. We now have an empty school and playing field that needs to be focused on. Our village hall needs work. We need to be recognised.
- I believe it is an anomaly that 2 wards are represented by 1 parish council anyway so this round just bring it in line with the norm

- It is clear that Hilgay parish councillors are very focussed on their own village which is quite right and whilst the hilgay/ten mile bank join is historic, TMB now, has a lot more properties and a lot more people. I know all of the people who are willing to jump into the breach and take on this job, should they get elected, and I know they will make it a success, not just through their passionate way they love our village but the way they are willing to play by the rules and are happy to be fully accountable.
- TMB misses out on so much. The money isn't split proportionally. Notwithstanding the whole of the parish council at present are Hilgay residents.
- TMB has been forgotten, the field and school are run down and not taken care of, the hall is also used less due to Hilgay having everything done at their hall and at their field etc. So YES having a TMB parish is 100% more beneficial to the residents and what we all need in our village
- There has been very little council money paid by TMB residents spent in TMB. It would definitely be more beneficial for TMB to manage their own funding and allow the residents to decide what they wish to spend it on. Hilgay is currently in charge of all the funds and we as residents have no idea what or how much they spend it on as it is not mentioned in the minutes.
- I totally think this should happen. The wards have totally different make-ups, Hilgay Ward being mainly Hilgay Village itself, and Ten Mile Bank a mainly rural farming ward. At present it feels that us in Ten Mile Bank are funding projects that only ever benefit Hilgay Ward residents, we only occasionally get something to keep us quiet. We appear to be an after thought, and see very little benefit for our precept. When we split, we will see our money being used to fund things in our Ward.
- Currently the balance of cllrs being 9 Hilgay 4 TMB prevents concerns of TMB being progressed.
Hilgay spend the precept (and more) only on Hilgay projects leaving TMB being the poor relation.
TMB having it's own parish means TMB residents can have their say and will be heard and their precept will be spent for the benefits of those residents. If 7 cllrs were to be approved then a wide range of opinions would be brought forward and quorate meetings could be mostly expected. 5 cllrs would limit the views and attendance.
Assets across the existing parish need to be given a financial figure and that amount shared with the parish that does not retain that physical asset. Lawn mowers, maintenance tools are some examples.
- I am looking forward to having an independent Ten Mile Bank Parish Council, as this will allow our Village to focus on what we need, and enable our Village to spend its money where we feel it is most required in our Parish.
- There is no doubt that an independent PC for Ten Mile Bank will enable it to focus on the issues that are considered important to us, prioritise appropriately and allocate the funds needed efficiently. Any extra meeting required could be called without problem. I have lived in the village for [REDACTED] and sincerely hope that we are granted an independent PC.
- Ten Mile Bank has always been treated as the poor relation to Hilgay. Any projects for Hilgay are always placed before any needs of Ten Mile Bank. By splitting the parish in two,

Ten Mile will have control over its own destiny. Elected councillors will have Ten Mile Bank interests at their heart.

- Ten Mile Bank has always been forgotten. Very little fight to save our school. Our play equipment is old fashioned and extremely old. One roundabout (that doesn't turn), two swings, a log thing (falling apart) and recently a zip wire. Hilgay playing field has lots of equipment which is updated almost every year. Our river bridge is bare, Hilgay's bridge has new paint and flowers boxes. Even the causeway sign erected in Ten Mile Bank has never worked and Hilgay parish has done nothing about it. Hilgay get a real Christmas tree every year. Ten Mile gets a second hand plastic tree. That to me says it all about the current parish arrangements.
- I think it is time for Ten Mile Bank to be it's own parish. I've lived here for [REDACTED] and have not felt that we've been looed after fairly. Thank you
- I belive that ten mile bank would benefit from having their own parish council as that way things that are needed to be done in ten mile bank can be allocated to ten mile bank where as , as things are now hilgay is prioritised for everything because there are more people there so us tenants of the ten mile bank area are missing out and basically being left alone for example the state of the roads, the school and the park. The park is in major need of repair or renewing as everything is rotten and is extremely dangerous to use so the children here can't use it without severe risk. Where as the park at hilgay has been updated and ensured to be safe.
- Current Hilgay Parish spend very little on the needs and wishes of Ten mile Bank. Hilgay always looks after itself first. With the Councilor balance 9 hilgay 4 TMB there is never a decision that Hilgay cannot over rule and vote out.
- Myself my friends and my family who all live in ten mile feel the same it's time for us to have a voice in our own ward
- It is a fairer way
- TMB needs to have their own governance
- In my time as a resident of TMB it has become clear that the in balance of council representatives between the 2 villages has favoured Hilgay to the detriment of TMB any and all maintenance or repairs required for public assets held by the council have always focused and concentrated on Hilgay with limited repairs and maintenance being conducted in village of TMB. Furthermore the current representation of TMB is always out voted by Hilgay members of the council thus not considering the interests and needs of the residents of TMB. A split of the council will allow centralised decision making to take place that favours the interests and requirements of each village independently of each other.
- Ten mile bank want and deserve a parish council that has their residents and village best interests at the heart of every decision made. We are sick of getting breadcrumbs in funding and items that are important to us not put at the forefront whilst the Hilgay councillors squander our precept on frivolous plans that do not aid all residents across both villages. Plans to make Hilgay pretty and wasting valuable resources on toilet blocks

whilst we have to wait months for a lid on a bin to be repaired and agreed items such as a dog waste bin still not installed after 10 months. Even with this review we at ten mile bank have seen no change in the support from the "our" council over the last year. We just want a fair and just democratic council that understands and works for our small farming village something we have not had in a very long time and something that we will not have we remain as one council with unfair numbers of seats.

- It would be a positive change for TMB for all the reasons stated in the previous report

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Disagree" in question 15

- I don't believe the parish should be split. The parish has one school, and the communities have worked hard over many years to come together as a single, cohesive community. Dividing the parish now would feel like a step backwards.

Even as a combined parish, the council already struggles to recruit councillors; a split parish would face even greater difficulties. A larger, united parish offers stronger representation, a wider range of perspectives, and more choice. It also benefits from economies of scale, making it more effective and sustainable in the long term.

- Ten Mile Bank is too small to stand alone
- Finally, and most importantly, I do not believe this proposal is being driven with the overall benefit of the community in mind. The focus should be on improving cooperation and moving forward together, not on creating permanent separation. Ten Mile Bank has lost its school, and children are now transported to Hilgay. The children of the future need to see that we are one community and work together to keep it that way. Hilgay has worked as one parish for decades. It should remain so for the good of the whole community.
- I think they should stay together
- This divide should not take place, representatives are out dated and out of touch. They don't actually know what they want or why they want it. There are far more important things going on in the village/s they could be fighting. I think that both/the council/s need a complete reform and public should be directly address as to the position on such things. We should be uniting people not fighting because of disagreements. There is no benefit for us Ten Mile Bank residents apart from a proclaimed cheaper cost
- I do not want to pay more council tax. We already live away from the village and do not receive any benefit from the parish council splitting.
- It is a stupid idea put forwards by our resident village idiots.
- I disagree with the current devolution plans for England. They are not aligned to our rights in perpetuity given in Magna Carta or The Bill of Rights Act 1688. Less political interference, lower taxes and direct representation. This devolution nonsense is designed to create division and allow idiots to make too much noise!

- It doesn't appear the split of precept money is equal to the percentage of properties ... is the precept normally worked out on the number of people or properties?

I see no advantages to this at all. For generations - hundreds of years - Hilgay and Ten Mile Bank villages have been part of the same Parish. My mother came from Ten Mile Bank and my father from Hilgay, so I'm not biased towards either village ... it has worked well as it is for generations, it's not broken, so why "fix" it when "fixing" it only causes separation and a distance between communities. It's like a very painful and pointless divorce.

Ten Mile Bank Ward respondents who selected "Don't know" in question 15

- Not sure if this means that Hilgay parish council would still be in charge of Ten Mile Bank ?

--- End of Ten Mile Bank responses to question 16 ---

6. Results of paper survey submissions

There were 0 paper survey submissions.

7. Other Representations

There were 0 submissions emailed, written or otherwise.

8. Next steps

These results will be submitted to the Electoral Arrangements Committee for the scheduled meeting on 12th March. Following decisions made, proposals will then be submitted to Full Council for the meeting scheduled 26th March.