

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RATING ACT 1997**  
**SECTION 17(3)**

By virtue of the powers contained in Section 17(3) of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, the Borough Council of Castle Morpeth hereby Order as follows:-

The existing Parish Wards in the Parish of Belsay, namely, Belsay Ward No. 1, Belsay Ward No. 2 and Belsay Ward No. 3 are abolished and any Order made by the Council or its predecessor establishing those Wards is revoked to that extent.

This Order shall come into effect on 16th February 2003 for the ordinary election of Parish Councillors in May of that year.

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of November 2000

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE )  
BOROUGH COUNCIL OF )  
CASTLE MORPETH was hereunto )  
affixed in the presence of:- )



*Y. G. Harrington*  
MAYOR

*P. J. ...*  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Committee:	<b>Policy and Resources</b>
Meeting Date:	<b>? (Insert)</b>
Title:	<b>Abolition of the Parish Wards of Belsay Parish</b>
Report of:	<b>Elections Officer</b>

### 1. Sustainability Impact

1.1

Sustainability Impact	+	-	Sustainability Impact	+	-
Resources			Access		
Pollution			Safety		
Biodiversity			Knowledge		
Local Needs	✓		Empowerment		
Basic Needs			Leisure		
Satisfying Work			Distinctiveness		
Health					

### 2. SUBJECT AND PURPOSE

- 2.1 To report on the consultation with the electorate of Belsay Parish to abolish the existing warding arrangements of the Parish of Belsay.

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Deputy Director of Administration and Personnel be authorised to complete the Order to abolish the existing Parish wards of Belsay Parish, to come into effect on 16 February 2003 for the ordinary election of Parish Councillors in May of the same year.
- 3.2 Following such authorisation, the Deputy Director of Administration and Personnel be authorised to amalgamate the 2003 Register of Electors for the Parish of Belsay as appropriate.

### 4. DETAILS

- 4.1 The electorate of Belsay Parish, Belsay Parish Council and the Borough Councillor representing the Parish were informed by letter of the Councils recommendations as contained in the report submitted to the Policy and Resources Committee on 20 June to abolish the existing Parish wards of Belsay. The consultation period passed with no comments being received.

4.2 A copy of the draft Order is appended herewith.

## **5. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1	Report of the Abolition of the Parish Wards of Belsay Parish - Policy and Resources Committee - 20 June 2000
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Author: <b>Ann Howliston</b>	File: <b>Reports/Elections</b>	Date: <b>21 November 2000</b>
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- (v) the decision of the Review Panel on any application for Discretionary Housing Payments be subject to review by the Borough Treasurer if the applicant so wishes.

**For the resolution – 15**  
**Against the resolution – 0**  
**Abstentions – 0**

#### **49. DISTRICT AUDIT REPORT ON DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL**

The Committee considered the District Audit report entitled “Democratic Renewal”, dated August 2000.

Councillor Parker noted that the act specifically abolished the current attendance allowances and that this needed to be looked into.

RESOLVED: that

- (i) the report be received and the key issues accepted;
- (ii) the officers bring back a completed proforma, as included in the document, for consideration at the next meeting.

**For the resolution – 15**  
**Against the resolution – 0**  
**Abstentions - 0**

#### **50. ABOLITION OF THE WARDS OF BELSAY PARISH**

The Committee considered a report of the Elections Officer entitled “Abolition of the Parish Wards of Belsay Parish”, dated 12th September 2000. The purpose was to report on the consultation with the electorate of Belsay Parish to abolish the existing warding arrangements of the Parish of Belsay.

RESOLVED: that

- (i) the report be received;
- (ii) the Deputy Director of Administration & Personnel be authorised to complete the Order to abolish the existing parish wards of Belsay Parish, to come into effect on 16th February 2003 for the ordinary election of Parish Councillors in May of the same year;
- (iii) following such authorisation, the Deputy Director of Administration & Personnel be authorised to amalgamate the 2003 Register of Electors for the Parish of Belsay as appropriate.

**For the resolution – 15**  
**Against the resolution – 0**  
**Abstentions - 0**

*PASSED  
Full Council  
26/10/00*

*Policy & Resources  
17/10/2000*

RESOLVED: that the report be received and, in future, meetings of the Works Sub-Committee be held on a monthly basis; and when a monthly meeting is not held, the DLO accounts be circulated to Elected Members on a monthly basis.

Pol  
20/6/00

X **6. ABOLITION OF THE PARISH WARDS OF BELSAY PARISH**

Before the Committee was a written report of the Elections Officer entitled "Abolition of the Parish Wards of Belsay Parish", dated 6<sup>th</sup> June 2000.

RESOLVED: that

- (i) the Deputy Director of Administration and Personnel inform the electorate of Belsay Parish by letter of the Parish Council's recommendations to abolish the warding arrangements and invite comments;
- (ii) following such consultation, the Deputy Director of Administration and Personnel be authorized to make an order under Section 17(3) of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, abolishing Wards 1,2, and 3 of Belsay Parish to take effect for the next Register of Electors coming into force on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2001;
- (iii) the numbers of Councillors to be elected for the parish remain at 6.

X  
For the resolution - 16  
Against the resolution - 0  
Abstentions - 0

**7. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP - GREEN PARTY MEMBER**

Further to the decision made at the Council meeting to increase the number of Committee from five to six, the Chief Executive reported receipt of a request from Councillor Best, the Green Party member, to be a member on three Committees, namely, the Environmental and Planning Services Committee, the Development Control Committee and the Regeneration and Facilities Management committee.

RESOLVED: that the above request be agreed.  
For the resolution - 16  
Against the resolution - 0  
Abstentions - 0

**8. SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCE AND MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE - NEW COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

Further to the decision made at the Council meeting to increase the number of Committee from five to six, the Chief Executive reported that it would be necessary to make a formal resolution to enable the Borough Treasurer to pay Members' Attendance Allowances and Special Responsibility Allowances.



**CASTLE MORPETH BOROUGH COUNCIL  
ELECTIONS OFFICE**  
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510348  
E-mail: AHowliston@castlemorpeth.gov.uk



5 July 2000

Dear Occupier

**ABOLITION OF THE PARISH WARDS OF BELSAY PARISH**

Representation has been made by the Parish of Belsay to abolish Wards 1,2 and 3 within the parish. Due to increasing election costs, and that the village of Belsay is now the main community centre for education, shopping and community activities; it is felt that the smaller communities represented by the warding arrangements are no longer required.

The Borough Council supports this request. At present, each ward is represented by two Councillors. Confusion arises as to which Councillors represent which Wards. At the re-election of the full Parish, costs are increased due to 3 separate elections being held to re-elect members to each ward. Abolishing the wards would result in one election being held for the whole of the parish and election costs would be reduced.

This request was put to the Policy and Resources meeting of the Council on Tuesday 20 June 2000 with a recommendation to:

1. Inform the electorate of Belsay Parish of its recommendations to abolish the warding arrangements and invite comments;
2. Following such consultation, make an Order under Section 17(3) of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997, abolishing Wards 1,2 and 3 of Belsay parish, to take effect for the ordinary election of parish councillors in May 2003;
3. That the number of councillors to be elected remains at 6.

Any comments should be in writing to the Elections Office at the above address, **no later than Monday 31 July 2000.**

ARTHUR YELLOWLEY

Acting Electoral Registration Officer