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**June 2025**

Dear Fairham residents in the parish of Barton in Fabis

**Have your say on how your parish will be governed in the future...**

First of all, welcome to Rushcliffe. We hope you will be very happy in your new home. You might not realise it yet, but you live in the parish of Barton in Fabis which is part of the Borough of Rushcliffe.

Rushcliffe Borough Council has received a petition from the existing residents of Barton in Fabis who want to make sure that you, and your neighbours, have appropriate and effective local governance in the form of your own parish council. They have triggered a Community Governance Review on your behalf so that you could have your own parish council at the next elections.

The petition proposes the separation of the new Fairham development from the existing Barton in Fabis parish with the wording set out below:

“This proposal is seeking to create a new Parish of Fairham so that the existing Parish Council can remain focussed on the interests of the Barton in Fabis population and the residents of Fairham will have their own representation.”

It goes on to present six reasons why this is necessary and proposes new boundaries for both parishes. The petition had 87 valid signatures from electors within the existing parish triggering a Community Governance Review. A Community Governance Review is a process governed by legislation and undertaken by Rushcliffe Borough Council.

This information sheet explains:

* What a Community Governance Review is
* How it will be carried out
* How you can have your say.

We appreciate that you will have plenty to do at the moment settling into your new home but it’s really important that you respond to this consultation to make sure the community of Fairham has its own parish council in the future.

Yours sincerely



Charlotte Caven-Atack

Head of Corporate Services

**Have Your Say…**

**Do you want a separate parish council for Fairham?**

**What is a Community Governance Review?**

The Council has received a petition from some residents living in the parish of Barton in Fabis who want to create a separate parish for the new Fairham development. Because of this Rushcliffe Borough Council (by law) has to carry out what is known as a Community Governance Review. As part of this review, the Council has to find out how much support there is in the current parish of Barton in Fabis (which includes the new homes in Fairham) for a separate parish from residents and other interested local organisations. We also need to establish whether it would be a good way to run local politics and matters affecting the area. The boundary of the two proposed parishes, as proposed by the petitioners, is shown on the map on the back page of this leaflet.

Rushcliffe Borough Council has to demonstrate there is sufficient community support to make this change so it is really important that you tell us what you think.

**How do I have my say?**

By emailing the Council at **consultation@rushcliffe.gov.uk**. In order for your response to be counted you must ensure you include your name and address. You can also complete the enclosed form and return it to the freepost address below.

**Please note that the CLOSING DATE for comments is Wednesday 6 August 2025.** Any comments received after that date may not be considered.

The findings of the consultation on whether to set up a separate parish for Fairham will be considered by Rushcliffe Borough Council. They will make a recommendation which you will be able to comment on in the autumn in a second stage of consultation. A final decision on this will be taken by Council in March 2026.

**What is a parish council?**

Parish councils are the most local level of elected local government which represent the interests of their community and are funded through an additional charge added to council tax bills, which is called a ‘precept’.

Many town and parish councils are involved in local matters such as planning, licensing, managing town and village centres, looking after community halls and other local facilities, as well as organising community events and providing a vital link between your community and the Borough Council.

**Will it cost me anymore than I pay now?**

The amount of charge (precept) depends on the services and facilities each parish council provides. Parish councils can also apply for grants and loans. The precept is decided by the parish council and is included in your Council Tax bill issued by Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Currently, residents in the parish of Barton in Fabis pay a parish precept of £25.92 per annum in addition to their Council Tax. The parish of Barton in Fabis has 228 electors and the precept helps to maintain the village hall and other small items such as benches and bins.

In 2027, it is expected that Fairham will be home to around 800 electors. This will grow to 2100 by 2031, and ultimately around 5500 electors will live in Fairham. There are plans for a community hall, school, medical centre, play area and other facilities. There is no doubt that the community in Fairham will be very different that that in the village of Barton in Fabis on the other side of the A453. When it is fully developed, Fairham will be more similar to Rushcliffe’s larger parishes of Ruddington, Keyworth and East Leake than Barton in Fabis.

**What is the process and who will have a say?**

The Council has now published a detailed terms of reference document which sets out how the review will be undertaken. This document can be accessed by visiting [www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/barton](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/barton).

We are now in the first consultation stage. Every household in the petitioned area will receive a copy of this information sheet and questionnaire. Even if you signed the original petition you should still respond to this consultation. Please send the completed questionnaire to:

 FREEPOST RTJY-BGGZ-EKZK

 Rushcliffe Borough Council

 Rushcliffe Arena

 Rugby Road

 West Bridgford

 Nottingham

 NG2 7YG

OR, send an email response to consultation@rushcliffe.gov.uk

Local businesses and community groups will also receive a copy of the information sheet and questionnaire.

**What happens next?**

All comments must be received by Wednesday 6 August 2025 so they can be included. The comments will be considered and draft proposals will be developed. You can have your say on the draft proposals which will be published in autumn 2025 when there will be a second stage to this consultation. It is vital that you respond to both stages of the consultation.

**New boundaries proposed by petitioners**

Residents in Barton in Fabis who triggered this Community Governance Review through the submission of a valid petition had to propose new boundaries for the two separate parishes. Their proposal is shown on the map below. The pink lines are the existing boundary for the parish of Barton in Fabis and the blue line is the proposed boundary for a new parish serving the Fairham community.



During the second stage of this Review, once the community has responded to the first stage of the consultation indicating their support for the creation of a separate parish for Fairham, Rushcliffe Borough Council will consider whether the proposed boundaries represent the distinct community identities of these two areas and whether they can deliver effective local governance. The Borough Council’s preferred boundaries may be different those those above and will be consulted on as part of the second stage of the Community Governance Review in the autumn.

This is a copy of the map which was attached to the petition. The dashed line was marked by the petitioners as the boundary for Edwalton.