1. Purpose

1.1 At its meeting on 10 September 2018 the Council agreed the final proposals for the Community Governance Review to consider moving Pineham Housing Developments within the boundaries of Hunsbury Meadows Parish and not be left within Upton Parish.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That Council approve the Northampton Borough Council (Reorganisation of Community Governance) order 2018 (Appendix 1)

2.1.1 The electoral arrangements for parishes – the ordinary year of election, the size of the council, the number of councillors to be elected and parish warding;

2.1.2 Grouping parishes under a common parish council, or de-grouping parishes

3. Issues and Choices

3.1 Report Background

3.1.1 Under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 the District Council must aim to ensure that community governance in the area under review and that it reflects the identities and interests of the community in that area. That it is effective and convenient and takes into account any other
arrangements for the purpose of community representation or community engagement.

In addition when considering this, the Council must have regard to two key principles:

1. the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion

and

2. the size, population and boundaries of any new local community or parish.

Such a review includes the following stages in chronological order;

1) Setting terms of reference of the review
2) Publishing the terms of reference (for the purposes of the Act, the review formally commences when the terms of reference are published);
3) Undertaking consultations with local government electors for the area and any other person or body (including the Parish Council) who appears to have an interest in the review.
4) Considering representations
5) Preparing and publishing draft proposals
6) Undertaking consultation on the draft proposals
7) Considering representations
8) Publishing recommendations
9) Making an order to bring into effect any decisions arising from the review
10) A review must be concluded within 12 months of the publication of the terms of reference.

3.1.2 In the present review the appropriate statutory notices were published and a specific section on the Council’s website was set up. A relevant consultation letter (because any changes would impact on the current parished area and precept for residents) was sent to ALL properties in the Upton Ward both for the initial and final consultation. The result of both the initial consultation and final consultation was a majority in favour of the merging of polling districts SNUP1 and SNUP2 to become Hunsbury Meadows Parish.

4. Implications (including financial implications)

4.1 Policy

4.1.1 N/A

4.2 Resources and Risk

4.2.1 There are no resources or risks as an outcome of the report.

4.3 Legal
4.3.1 There are no legal implications as an outcome of the report.

4.4 Equality

4.4.1 None

4.5 Other Implications

4.5.1 N/A

5. Background Papers

5.1 None

Francis Fernandes
Borough Secretary & Monitoring Officer