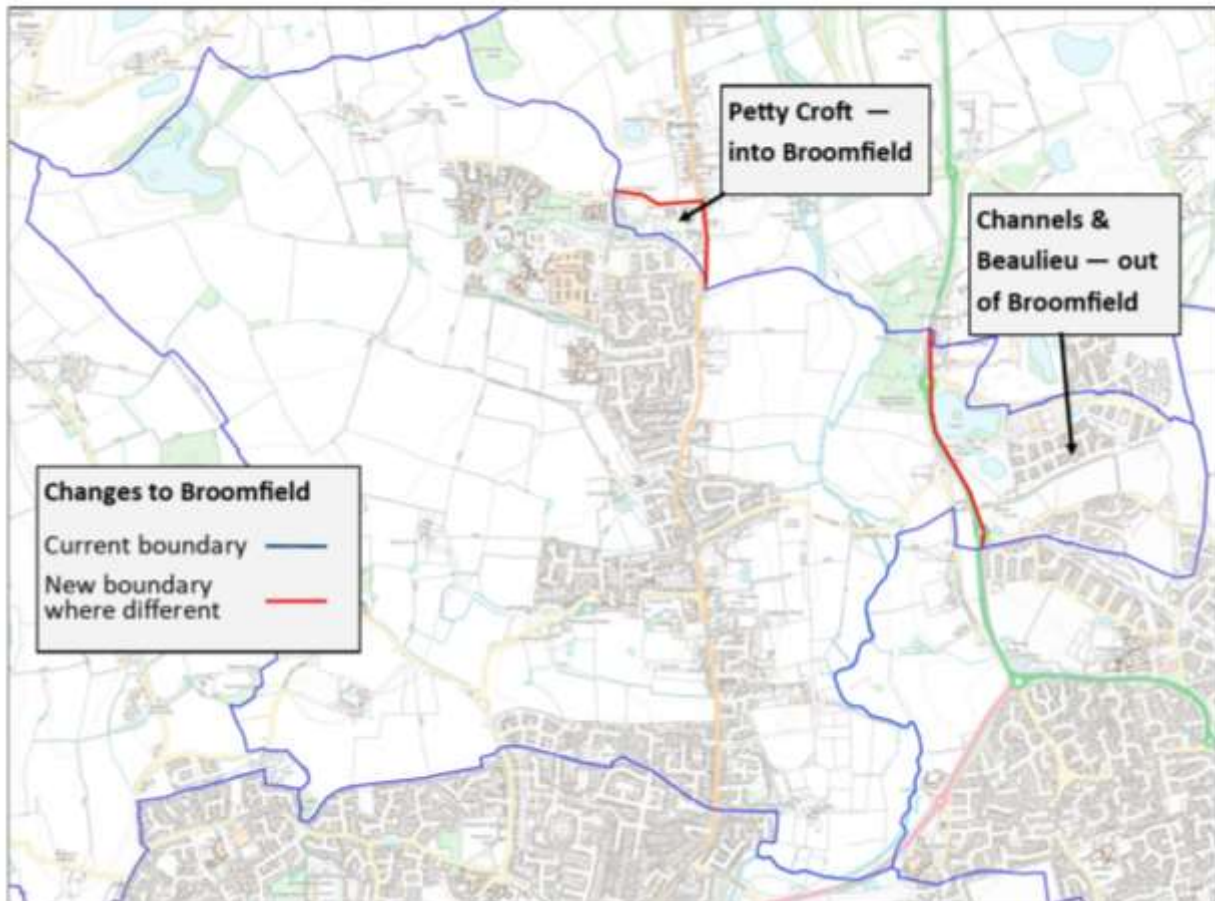


# Broomfield is Shrinking!

## What is changing?

A new parish is being created, called Chelmsford Garden Community, with its own parish council. It will take in the whole of the Beaulieu Park and Channels area, which is currently split between 4 parishes: Springfield, Boreham, Little Waltham and Broomfield. As you can see on this map, the Broomfield part of Beaulieu and Channels, east of Essex Regiment Way, is going into the new parish.



At the same time, we're welcoming in some new residents who live in Petty Croft. At the moment, they're in Little Waltham Parish but they're joining us in Broomfield.

However, in total, Broomfield will have 534 fewer households. Beaulieu has been growing so fast recently that the map doesn't show all the houses we're losing!

## Why this change?

Government guidance requires local authorities to review parish boundaries from time to time to make sure that the boundaries still make sense and reflect real communities on the ground – where people feel they belong and can contribute to their community.

Beaulieu Park and Channels weren't developed to fit historic parish boundaries. The old boundaries don't make much sense on the ground any more. In one or two places, they even go through the middle of houses! If people can't relate to their parish, they're less likely to get involved in their community.

## **Who decides on the changes?**

Chelmsford City Council. They set up a 'Community Governance Review' which carried out extensive consultation with new residents to see where they felt they belonged, as well as with other bodies.

The Review was approved at a special meeting of the City Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2022. The decision was so unanimous that apparently they didn't even need to take a formal vote. Whether one likes a decision or not, it's always re-assuring to see city councillors from different political groups – Lib Dem, Conservative and Independent – agreeing on the same course of action.

For more info on Chelmsford Garden Community Council, go to:  
[chelmsfordgardencommunitycouncil.gov.uk](http://chelmsfordgardencommunitycouncil.gov.uk)