

Windsor and Maidenhead

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Comment text:

Further to the previous submission relating to Oldfield ward boundaries revision, the Local Government Boundary Commission have used part of the previous submission to revise the boundaries. However, it has not included part of our previous submission to retain the existing boundary of the A4, The River Thames, along with the eastern edge of Oldfield Road up to the railway line. Please refer to attached map showing the historical Guards Club property marked 'Oldfield' and a map highlighting the geographical location of why the eastern edge of Oldfield Road should delineate the ward boundary with St. Marys ward. A copy of the original submission is included explaining the reason why this area should remain within the Oldfield ward. Kind regards Cllr Derek Wilson

Uploaded Documents:

https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/download_document?file=draft%2F1525638246_Electoral+Commission+submission+from+Oldfield+ward+revision.pdf

We the three Unitary Authority Councillors for the Oldfield ward recognise that the population growth within the ward has resulted in a boundary review change, as the electorate has grown significantly since the last boundary change in 2001 with % increase heading towards the 30% trigger point.

The current Oldfield ward is defined by certain boundaries that utilise the A4 route into Maidenhead from Maidenhead River Bridge across the Thames, includes the whole of the Town Centre and runs southwards down Shoppenhangers Road to the Cox Green border with the A404(M) and then runs west along Norreys Drive and Norden Road to the Railway Line. To the east the ward boundary continues along Harvest Hill Road, across the Braywick Road (included in the ward) down Hibbert Road to Bray Cricket Club with the boundary of the River Thames to give a clearly defined boundary to the ward. This includes properties located within the Fishery Estate and properties that front onto Bray Road with the Bray Cricket ground being the dividing line between Oldfield and the Bray wards. The last property contained within the Oldfield ward adjacent to the River Thames is a property known as Sommerville.

There are some anomalies to the current boundary within the ward which includes Ray Street (western side), Salters Road, Salters Close and the northern side of the A4 running from Ray Street along to the Police Station roundabout. The next anomaly is running northwards along Cookham Road, with everything to the eastern side up to Kennet Road and including the Holmanleaze area to the north of the A4 boundary.

The proposal to amend the boundaries to create a new ward of St Mary's to represent the Town Centre makes sense, as the Town is growing through a variety of regeneration projects the electorate will expand in the future. However, Oldfield ward needs to retain it's sense of identity with the electorate so the ward boundaries need to be adjusted to retain that community feel by taking that sense of belonging using the existing boundary of the River Thames and A4 should be retained within the Oldfield ward. Therefore, we would like to suggest that the Maidenhead River Bridge and the A4 is used as the boundary in the north eastern part of the boundary and that boundary to follow along the A4 to the junction of Oldfield Road (retaining the ward name). Every property to the eastern part of the road falls within the Oldfield ward to include; Guards Club Road (A4 road - southern side to include Bridge Clinic, Farthings etc), The Farthingales/Oldacres area down to the railway line. The rest of the revised ward boundary is to the south of the railway line. The reason is that there are clear boundaries for the electoral ward area, the properties to the west of Oldfield Road i.e. Kingsquarter development is part of the new ward of St.Mary's.

The rest of the ward being to the South retains the Fishery Estate within the Unitary Authority ward of Oldfield for Borough elections. The Fishery Estate residents have supported this proposal, but would like to be part of the Bray Parish Council for more localised elections and precept. This would mean that the following roads; The Rushes, Fishery Road, Avenue Road, Bray Road (part), Glebe Road and Church Road would form a new Parish ward for Parish Elections only. This will mean the these roads will be retained within the current boundary of the Oldfield ward. It does not make sense to break-up this part of the ward to enlarge the Bray Parish boundary for Borough Elections.

The revised boundary of Oldfield ward includes a site known as Maidenhead Golf Club and land to the south along Harvest Hill Road which is being proposed for future housing development. At this stage of the process, the sites do appear within the emerging Borough Local Plan submission document, as it is still subject to Examination in Public during Summer 2018. The earliest the Maidenhead Golf Club can be brought forward for redevelopment would be 2019 and the latest period of time would be 2023. Therefore to count the potential growth within Oldfield ward at this stage would be premature and would almost certainly be brought forward on a phased housing development process into the future.

This is why the three Councillors that currently represent the area are advising that boundary is slightly amended to include The Farthingales/Oldacres estate to the north east and The Fishery Estate to the South East and retain everything to the south of the railway line that has been previously defined within the 2001 Boundary Review. The Town Centre area will form part of the new St. Mary's ward that will be created from Oldfield Road (western edge down to the railway line).

Please give this matter due consideration when reviewing the proposed boundary changes within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Geoff Hill, Cllr Asghar Majeed and Cllr Derek Wilson

NB: There was talk of changing the name of the ward to Desborough, but should remain as Oldfield due to the historical boundary with Guards Club Road including a former Guards Club known as Oldfield



Oldfield is marked with an X on the attached map, highlighted in yellow of streets that should be retained within the Oldfield ward, with it's geographical and historical boundary of the ward.

