

Windsor and Maidenhead

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Comment text:

The proposal put forward by the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead to change the electoral arrangements will I feel completely compromise the current system in our local area. Currently the system here in Sunningdale is really effective & what is being proposed will completely impact local communities. What is being proposed is the Ward of Sunningdale becoming much larger and Sunninghill & South Ascot Ward and Ascot & Cheapside Ward will together become smaller. To balance each of two potential new Wards, this would mean three ward councillors in each geographic area. Today, Sunningdale Ward is very conveniently aligned with Sunningdale Parish Council, and Sunninghill & South Ascot and Ascot & Cheapside Wards are aligned with Sunninghill & Ascot Parish Council. As parish boundaries cannot be changed as part of these new arrangements, this will mean that Sunningdale & Ascot Parish Council will now be dealing with SIX councillors, thus compromising effective and convenient local government in our area. Two Wards currently straddle important sites in our area & I would urge that if approved, a)Sunningdale Park, Larch Avenue, b)Lynwood Village, Rise Road, and c) Blacknest Park, Whitmore Lane, Sunningdale should in their entirety be included in whatever the new Sunningdale Ward is named, rather than today straddling two Wards. I would also ask that where new boundaries follow a public highway, property on both sides are included in one or other of the wards to "reflect community interests and identities". It is important in our more rural area that Local Communities feel involved & listened too & their first port of call is often the Parish Council, so by muddying the waters it will mean local communities will feel very detached & this is not healthy. If communities are not conjoined then people will be left feeling alienated & this will not be good for local government. While I understand the need for the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead to reduce its Councillor head count from 57 to a smaller number, by reducing it to 43 is a step too far & a more sensible number would be 47.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded