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From: Gavin James [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 May 2018 10:23
To: reviews
Subject: Basingstoke and Deane review submission.
Attachments: Liberal Democrat Group BDBC Submission on the BDBC Boundary Review.pdf; Map A Lib Dem Group Proposed Outer Boundaries.pdf; Map B Lib Dem Group Proposed Inner Boundaries.pdf

Please accept my submission in this format. Unfortunately your website will only allow 1 document per comment which makes is very poorly suited to dealing with boundary reviews!

Please find attached the Liberal Democrat Group on Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's submission regarding new ward boundaries for the Borough, which includes a supporting spreadsheet setting out which polling districts and parishes are in which ward, three maps showing the boundaries of our proposed wards and a fourth map showing two suggestions for redrawing the ward boundaries between two wards in Baughurst Parish.

We believe our proposal provides the necessary balance between electoral equality, providing effective and convenient local government as well as reflecting the interests and identities of our local communities.

Gavin James
Group leader
Basingstoke and Deane Liberal Democrats

Basingstoke and Deane Liberal Democrat Council Group

Proposal on the BDBC Boundary Review

1. Introduction

The Boundary Commission is minded to set the number of councillors for the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council at 54.

The Liberal Democrat Council Group has always been against large three member rural wards. In 2005 in our submission to the Boundary Committee for England we stated that they were “undesirable in rural areas” because “(t)hey are inevitably geographically large which makes them difficult for two-way communication” and “they create a greater workload for Councillors who may have to attend ... more Parish Council meetings”.

The large rural area lends itself towards two member wards, something that could be delivered in the urban area as well. It is frustrating that 27 two seat wards with alternate year elections is not an option the Council were asked to consider. It would appear to be the approach that would deliver the electoral fairness, boundaries that keep communities together and seems to have considerable cross party support.

On 27th July, 2017, the Borough Council rejected a motion to move to all up elections therefore the council electoral cycle remains as electing by thirds.

We have noted the Boundary Commission’s presupposition that a decision to remain electing by thirds would provide a presumption in favour of all wards having three members.

Therefore whilst our first preference is to have wards of differing sizes and retaining elections by thirds and our second preference is for all wards to have two members having elections by halves, we are proposing 18 three-member wards, which we feel we have been forced into having to do against our better judgment in terms of the needs of Basingstoke’s electorate.

The accompanying spreadsheet sets out the numbers in more detail and the accompanying maps show the boundaries of the proposed wards.

2. Summary

All wards:

- have three members;
- are within 10% of electoral equality of 2668 electors per councillor in 2023; and
- as far as possible whilst achieving the above electoral equality, are based on the interests and identities of our local communities.

Our proposal uses the existing polling districts and parish wards as the building blocks. Only two polling areas require the creation of new polling districts and/or for existing ones to be

amended. Please see accompanying spreadsheet for the details of our proposal, setting out which polling districts (and parishes) are in which ward.

3. Wards

3.1 Chineham ward

We propose no change to the existing electoral arrangements, which have been essentially the same since 2002. They comprise the parishes of Chineham and Sherfield Park (the new development to the north of the town of Basingstoke) and the Chineham Business Park.

The area has largely been developed since 1980 (Sherfield Park much more recently) and is now a densely populated major housing area of the Borough and can be classified as urban. It is distinct from the surrounding rural areas and is in many ways geographically separated from the rest of the Basingstoke town area.

In 2023 it is forecast to have 8,050 electors which is 0.6% above electoral equality (2668).

3.2 Basing and Upton Grey ward

This ward is currently unchanged since 1992 when the parishes of Newnham and Mapledurwell and Up Nately were added. Representations were made in 2005 to remove the Parish of Mapledurwell and Up Nately (as most of it lies south of the M3) and unite it with the adjacent parishes in the Upton Grey and The Candovers ward. This would have created a ward based on shared community identity of the area south of the M3. The Boundary Commission “considered that it (new proposed single-member ward) has good road links and combines a number of rural parishes” when as part of its draft proposals of February 2007 it created a single-member ward based on Upton Grey south of the motorway.

We propose adding to the existing ward the parishes of Winslade, Tunworth, Upton Grey, Weston Corbett, Weston Patrick, Cliddesden and Herriard. These are all south of the M3 like Mapledurwell and Up Nately and will bring the electorate up to 8712 for 2023 which is 8.8% above electoral equality.

Tunworth has road links to both Old Basing and Mapledurwell and Up Nately; Upton Grey, Weston Corbett, Weston Patrick and Tunworth have road links between them; Herriard has road links to Upton Grey (via Weston Patrick and Weston Corbett) and Cliddesden (via Winslade). These villages had shared interests such as keeping the rural nature of their villages and facilities such as primary schools.

We consider the A339 and its western hinterlands as a suitable border area to split the existing one-member Upton Grey and The Candovers ward between its existing neighbouring parished Borough wards. Whilst not ideal, it creates a three-member ward based on the existing Basing ward with its more rural parishes of Newnham and Mapledurwell and Up Nately which have good road links to those parishes which we are adding and a shared interests as outlined above.

3.3 Oakley and The Candovers ward

Currently this ward comprises the parishes of Oakley and Deane (4471 electors in 2017), which includes a number of villages of various sizes from Deane (107 electors in 2017) up to East Oakley (2536 electors in 2017); Dummer (408 electors in 2017); North Waltham (687 electors in 2017); and Popham (40 electors in 2017). The Boundary Commission in its draft proposals of February 2007 proposed a North Waltham and The Candovers ward comprising of the parishes of Deane (now part of Oakley and Deane Parish), Dummer, North Waltham, Popham, Steventon, Bradley, Candovers, Farleigh Wallop, Nutley and Preston Candovers based on their rural nature and shared interests, and on Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council's option C which had the most community support of the four options it presented. Also in the review of Hampshire division boundaries in 2004, the Boundary Commission was keen to keep the Steventon and North Waltham parishes in the same division because of their shared interests. Before 2002, Steventon was in the same ward as North Waltham and Oakley. There are some shared facilities such as the Preston Candover C of E Primary School, North Waltham Primary School and the two primary schools in Oakley.

Again to achieve electoral equality and three-member wards we are proposing joining Steventon from the current Overton ward and the rest of the parishes from the current Upton Grey and The Candovers ward with the current Oakley and North Waltham ward to create a larger three-member ward. In 2023 it is forecast to have 8,600 electors which is 7.5% above electoral equality.

3.4 Whitchurch and Overton ward

This is a new ward created by joining Whitchurch and Overton along with Laverstoke into one ward. Both Whitchurch and Overton are quite urban settlements set in rural environments with their own town or parish council. They are of similar size with about 4000 electors. There are strong educational links between Whitchurch and Overton and good transport links between them.

The Testbourne Parishes Twinning Association covers the parishes of Laverstoke, Overton, Whitchurch and Barton Stacey and Wonston outside of the Borough Council area which are twinned with Neuvic-Sur-L'Isle because they are within the catchment area of the Testbourne Community School. There is a great deal of important interaction and common interest between the two communities both in the leisure and employment sectors. The Kingfisher Day Centre in Laverstoke provides care, companionship, activities and rehabilitation for the elders of the whole new ward area. There are strong links across the area via its sports clubs: such as the Black Arrows archery club (who met in Laverstoke and in Whitchurch during the winter), Overton Harriers athletics club, Overton Rugby Club which also covers Whitchurch and Laverstoke; leagues such as the Invitation Pool League and darts league; and social activities such as the Whitchurch, Overton and District Quiz League and crib league. As well as the annual Rotten Hill Cup football matches for over 40's and under 13's. They are linked by the B3400, the 76 bus services, the London to Salisbury railway line, the River Test and the management of the Test River. There are the same mix of businesses and the same type of retail outlets.

Our proposed ward is forecast to have 8,671 electors in 2023 which is 8.3% above electoral equality.

3.5 Western Parishes ward

This unites the existing East Woodhay and Burghclere, Highclere and St Mary Bourne wards together with the parishes of Hurstborune Priors and Ashford Hill and Headley to create a new ward which is forecast to have 8,490 electors in 2023 which is 6.1% above electoral equality. When considering new ward boundaries for this area we took into consideration that the Boundary Commission when drawing up new divisional boundaries for Hampshire in 2016, were happy to include Ashford Hill and Headley parish and the northern (Bishop's Green and North Sydmonton areas) part of Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green in the same division.

In 2007, at the draft recommendation stage the Boundary Commission found enough shared interests to create a two-member ward comprising Ashmansworth, East Woodhay Highclere, Ashford Hill with Headley, Ecchinswell, Sydmonton & Bishops Green and Kingsclere parishes and a one member ward comprising of Burghclere, Litchfield & Woodcott, Newtown and St Mary Bourne parishes.

The whole area consists of small parishes – Ashmansworth (181 electors), Burghclere (964), Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green (911), Highclere (1267), Litchfield and Woodcott (129), Newtown (216), St Mary Bourne (1069), Hurstborune Priors (270), East Woodhay (2332) and Ashford Hill and Headley (1068 electors). Most of the larger parishes have more than one main village in them: Ecchinswell, Sydmonton and Bishops Green has three, Highclere two, Litchfield and Woodcott two, St Mary Bourne two, East Woodhay two and Ashford Hill and Headley two. They all also include much smaller settlements.

The current Burghclere, Highclere and St Mary Bourne ward has many community interests which East Woodhay, Ashford Hill and Headley and Hurstborune Priors share. For example Newtown, Penwood, Highclere, Burghclere, Bishops Green and Ecchinswell, East Woodhay and Ashford Hill and Headley look northward, more to Newbury than eastward towards Basingstoke. In fact the number 7A bus runs between Burghclere and Newbury. They also have shared interests and facilities such as shops and schools. The secondary school of The Clere School And Technology College in Burghclere covers most of the area from Hurstborne Priors in the south-west to Ashford Hill in the north-east and Lower Woodcott in the south. Its feeder schools in the area are situated in Hurstbourne Tarrant, Woolton Hill, East Woodhay, Burghclere, Ecchinswell and Ashford Hill.

The parishes of Burghclere, Newtown and Ecchinswell, Sydmonton & Bishops Green are closely linked with shared interests built on their close geographical proximity with numerous connecting roads. Hurstborune Priors and St Mary Bourne are both on the Bourne Rivulet and the B3048. Before 2008 Highclere, St Mary Bourne and Ashmansworth were in one ward. St Mary Bourne and Stoke villages have good road links to the villages of Woodcott and Litchfield that link them to Ashmansworth and shared interests and views. The number C3 and C8 buses runs between Stoke and St Mary Bourne and Andover.

A large part of this new larger ward (Woolton Hill, East Woodhay, Ashmansworth, Stoke, St Mary Bourne, Hurstborune Priors, Highclere, Old Burghclere, Sydmonton and Litchfield) is in the North Wessex Downs AONB and so these areas have that as a shared interest.

3.6 Tadley and Baughurst Common ward

We considered a ward comprising all of Tadley town but it is forecast to have 9,187 electors in 2023 which is 14.8% above electoral equity. We did not think the Boundary Commission would agree to have a ward with such a large variance from the elector equality and we noted the more rural nature of Tadley South. We then consider the more urban nature of Baughurst Common ward of Burghurst Parish. We recognise that Baughurst Common for historical reasons is part of the Baughurst Parish but hope we can persuade the Boundary Commission that current interests, shared facilities and community links out-weigh this historical tie.

Baughurst Common was developed in the 1950s along with the Tadley North area with, at its heart, Heath End. Its parade of local shops is used by people in both Baughurst Common and the northern part of Tadley. The houses were built to accommodate the staff working at AWE. While Heath End Road is the boundary between Tadley North and Baughurst Common for the most part its facilities (shops and a pub) act as the focal point for both of these parts of their parish or town.

Heath End Village Hall is a community facility used by people from both Baughurst and Tadley. Residents of both Baughurst and Tadley use other local facilities in the Tadley area, such as the library, the swimming pool, Barlow's Park Football ground, the larger supermarkets such as Sainsburys and the Coop and its primary schools – Burnham Copse Primary Schools and Bishopwood Infants and Junior schools. They all feed the secondary school: The Hurst Community College and residents from both areas use its attached Leisure Centre in Baughurst Common on Brimpton Road. Generally people from Tadley, particularly those with easy links to Baughurst will also use the facilities in Heath End Road such as shops, public houses and public rights of way. The number 2 bus to Basingstoke runs between Rowan Road in Tadley East and Badgers Wood adjacent to Baughurst Common.

In the same way as the Heath End Road unites Baughurst Common and Tadley North, Mulfords Hill unites Tadley Central and Tadley East. However, there is no clear boundary between Tadley North ward and Tadley Central ward along the north to south boundary, splitting Franklin Avenue between the two between Bond Close and Meon Close.

Therefore we are proposing uniting Tadley North, Central and East wards of Tadley Town with Baughurst Common ward of Baughurst Parish into one ward. It is forecast to have 7,740 electors in 2023, which is 3.3% below electoral equality.

3.7 Bramley, Sherfield and Silchester ward

We initially considered combining the wards of Bramley & Sherfield and Pamber & Silchester into one ward, as they have some shared interests and formed one ward between 1992 and 2002 called Calleva. However, this would result in 2023 of a forecast electorate of 9,813 which is 22.6% above elector equality. Therefore as Pamber has shared facilities and interests especially with Tadley South we have included it in the same ward as Tadley South.

We are therefore proposing uniting the ward of Bramley & Sherfield with Silchester, Mortimer West End, Stratfield Saye, Stratfield Turgis and Hartley Wespell, thereby uniting the rural communities of the north-eastern part of the Borough. (In 2000 the Local Government

Commission for England created a ward much like this. The only difference being the splitting of Bramley and the exclusion of the new Bramley West ward.)

The whole area has shared facilities such as the railway station in Bramley. As these are essentially small communities with a low density they form a community interest group. This ward will have improved communication links than the existing wards as Stratfield Turgis and Hartley Wespell have road links with Sherfield on Loddon and Stratfield Saye and Silchester with Bramley. The number 14 bus links Sherfield on Loddon, Bramley and Silchester.

This ward is forecast to have 7,717 electors in 2023 which is 3.6% below the electoral equality.

3.8 Baughurst, Kingsclere, Tadley South and Pamber ward

We propose creating a rural central northern ward with shared interests, comprising Baughurst Parish minus the more urban Baughurst Common ward; the current Kingsclere Borough ward minus Ashford Hill and Headley Parish; the most rural ward of Tadley – Tadley South; and Pamber Parish. We feel that because of their size, rural nature and geographical position within the borough these areas have shared interests. It is forecast to have 8,498 electors in 2023 which is 6.2% above electoral equity.

Pamber has strong community links with Tadley. Both Tadley South and Pamber Parish have more urban areas in the north and rural areas in the south. The catchment area of Tadley Community Primary School includes Tadley South and much of Pamber. The Priory Primary School cover a large part of the rural area of our proposed new ward as far west as Wolverton Common. Both Baughurst and Wolverton have road links to Kingsclere.

3.9 Sherborne St John and Rooksdown ward

We propose uniting the current wards of Rooksdown and Sherborne St John, as Rooksdown was once part of Sherborne St John Parish and Rooksdown has road links to Sherborne St John, Monk Sherborne, Charter Alley and Ramsdell and Upper Wootton and Wootton St Lawrence. Rooksdown and Sherborne are both on the route of the 22 bus.

This ward is forecast to have 7,892 electors in 2023 which is 1.4% below the electoral equality.

3.10 Popley ward

Again we considered combining Popley East and West wards to create one Popley ward embracing the whole area of Popley. However by 2023 it would be forecast to have 9,995 electors which is 24.9% above electoral equality. Between 1992 and 2002 there was a three member Popley ward which included most of the area now covered by Popley East and West wards, accept the southern part of the current GU polling district which was joined to the Norden ward.

The heart of Popley was built in the 1960s and 1970s and was in three parts often known as the Poets, the Abbeys and the Islands, based on the themes of the road names. There has been some regeneration in these areas and large scale development at Popley Fields and the

old John Hunt of Everest school site. The whole of Popley is linked by geography and name and has the similar characteristics.

Our proposed Popley ward contains both Popley West polling districts and polling district GV from Popley East and includes the newly built secondary school Everest Community College and the Popley Field Community Centre in Carpenters Down, which hosts the annual Popley Festival. There are shared facilities across the area – schools, community centres, doctors' surgery and shops (including chemists). By 2023 it is forecast to have 7,754 electors which is 3.1% below electoral equality.

3.11 Norden ward

Like Popley, much of Norden was built in the 1960s and 1970s particularly in the north-eastern area called Oakridge. The polling districts GA and FZ have been united in the same ward since at least 1976. We are proposing joining these two polling districts with polling district GU from Popley East. They share the same doctors' surgery in Popley. Polling district GU has good footpath links to Oakridge via a foot bridge from the eastern end near Hathaway Gardens and the old Chineham Lane to near the Oakridge Hall for All and Forsythia Walk; and a tunnel from the western end near the doctors surgery, chemist and shop in Shakespeare Road to Oakridge Road near Wateridge Road. As the houses in both Popley and Norden were mainly council houses when built and the majority of those not purchased by the tenants were transferred in 1995 to Oakfern Hosing Association (now part of VIVID Housing Group), they therefore have shared interests.

This ward is forecast to have 7,536 electors in 2023 which is 5.9% below electoral equality.

3.12 Brookvale and Kings Furlong ward

This ward has been in existence in some form at least from 1976. The community of Brookvale is much older having been developed in the 19th and early 20th centuries along the River Loddon headwaters. The oldest parts being Sarum Hill, Essex Road, Rayleigh Road, Worting Road, Southend Road, Flaxfield Road and Cross Road. However the boundary between this ward and Eastrop has been subject to changes, particularly in the review of 2000. Then the Local Government Commission for England moved the boundary between Eastrop and Brookvale so that it would “run southwards along Essex Road and Penrith Road to Winchester Road, eastwards on Hawkfield Lane and southwards along the rear of the properties on Sylvia Close, Cordale Road and Culver Road to the A30 (Ringway South)”.

The Boundary Commission at the draft proposal stage in 2007 accepted that between Eastrop and Brookvale there was no recognised and distinct boundary. It accepted to change to them again by transferring the area “to the south of Winchester Road” to Eastrop and an area “to the south of Sarum Hill and east of Penrith Road and Winchester Road”. (At the final stage the boundary was kept the same because the revised electorate forecasts made the changes unnecessary.)

We propose restoring to the current Brookvale and Kings Furlong ward areas which have been removed over recent years, and return its boundary to the town centre.

From Eastrop we propose moving polling districts FJA and FK which currently have 322 electors.

From polling district FJ of Eastrop we propose moving these roads:

Bounty Road	84
Frances Road	42
Winchester Road	169
Sarum Hill	65
Flaxfield Road	154
Flaxfield Court	99
Mortimer Lane	20
Harrison Place	12
Church Street	
The Rectory	2
Flats 110 & 142	2
Church Square	78
Elbow Corner	7
Timberlake Court	41
Queens Parade New Street	8
Verum House 19 New Street	18
Spring House Sarum Hill	13
Timberlake Court	41
Winton Square	7
Sub Total	862

From polling district FM of Eastrop we propose moving these roads:

Alencon Link	38
Crown Heights	347
Skyline Plaza	354
Churchill Way	4
Sub Total	743

These elector numbers are from the 2018 electoral register. The Borough Council produced a spreadsheet entitled "Electors by housing development site to 2023 Final" which sets out their predictions for housing developments and the number of electors these will produce by 2023. From new development for polling district FJ they predict 136 more electors; and for FM 395 more electors. In the spreadsheet on the Boundary Commission's website the total increase in the number of electors by 2023 for polling district FJ is 136; and for polling district FM the figure is 395. They are predicting no change in the number of electors for the existing areas.

We are splitting the increase in electors from the new developments in FJ:

- 20 Winchester Street 1 (not moving)
- Wote Street Sun Alliance 19 (not moving)
- Innovation Court New Street 46 (moving)

Non-assigned 70 (35/35 split)
Sub Total 81

We are splitting the increase in electors from the new developments in FM:
Churchill Plaza 278 (moving)
Clifton House Bunnian Place 108 (moving)
Non-assigned 9 (split 4/5)
Sub Total 390

We are proposing for 2023 moving 943 electors from FJ to our new ward and 1133 from FM.

Our proposed ward is forecast to have 7,325 electors in 2023 which is 8.5% below electoral equality.

The new boundary between this ward, and our new proposed ward Eastrop and Grove would run from the current boundary between FL and FM polling district – Norn Hill and Basing View; then along the north of Eastrop Roundabout and then the southern curb of Churchill Way East. It then follows the boundary of The Malls Shopping Centre where Churchill Way East goes under the shopping centre; the southern edge of Timberlake Road to the roundabout and then up the centre of New Street; then along the rear boundaries of Little Victoria Street and Victoria Street, joining the current boundary between polling districts of FJ and FK (see Map C Lib Dem Group Proposed New Boundary Brookvale & Kings Furlong and Eastrop & Grove). Finally it follows the existing boundary of the A30 Ringway South. We feel this produces a clear boundary for the whole ward with the railway in the north and Ringway West in the west.

Brookvale is an established community with an active residents association. Returning large parts of FJ to Brookvale re-unifies this natural community, moving the boundary to the western edge of the town centre. Glebe Gardens links into Brookvale Park by footpath and many residents walk into the town this way. The ring road remains a natural barrier to the South.

Bounty Road is one way so resident will access from the Fairfield area and leave via Brookvale so this could sit neatly in either area, but for electoral equality has been put in Brookvale and Kings Furlong. There are many shared interests within the area based on the type of housing and when the area was developed. There are shared facilities such as schools – Kings Furlong Infant and Junior schools and the secondary school Cranbourne Business and Enterprise College; and shops, particularly the Worting Road shopping centre which includes Morrisons.

3.13 Eastrop and Grove ward

We are proposing uniting the existing Grove ward which was created in 1992 with most of the current Eastrop ward (the western part of Eastrop we are proposing transferring to the Brookvale and Kings Furlong ward to make the boundary between the two clearer than they are at present), which has existed at least from 1973.

Within the current Eastrop ward are the Basingstoke Town and Fairfields conservation areas, which include the oldest parts of the town; the rest of the Farifields area also includes houses from the late 19th century and early 20th century; the western Eastrop area was developed in

the 1930s; the Crossborough Hill area was developed before the 1950s and Riverdene was developed mainly in the 1960s and 70s.

The current Grove ward includes areas developed from the late 19th century onwards (Cranbourne Lane and Cliddenden Road areas); in the 1930s (Neville Close area); in the 1950s (Sheppard Road, Skippetts Way, Hackwood Road, Chesterfield Road and Grove Road areas); and in the 1970s and 80s (Black Dam). The Cranbourne / Viables area of the current Grove ward has very similar interests to the Eastrop and Crossborough Hill and the newer parts of Fairfields areas of Eastrop. Likewise, Black Dam and Riverdene have similar interests as they were developed around the same time.

Grove has two distinct communities – Cranbourne / Viables and Black Dam, and so does Eastrop (once Brookvale has been united in our enlarged Brookvale and Kings Furlong ward) – Eastrop / Riverdene and Fairfields. There are well-used footpaths which link Fairfields and Cranbourne / Viables. One under the A30 Ringway South, which links the two parts of Cliddesden Road and another at the Hackwood Road Roundabout which links the War Memorial Park in the town and the Camrose area of Cranbourne / Viables. There is a road over the A30 Ringway South linking Old Common Road in Eastrop and Black Dam Way in Black Dam, as well as a footpath linking Crossborough Hill and the War Memorial Park in Fairfields with Whistler Close and the footpath behind Rucstall School in Black Dam. The open spaces of Black Dam Ponds, the Old Common and Memorial Park are used by residents from across all four communities. The number 12 Basingstoke bus links both communities stopping in London Road, Old Common Road, Black Dam Way, Skippetts Lane (Grove Road), Cliddesden Road, Sheppard Road, Cranbourne Lane and Harrow Way

Hackwood Road unites rather than divides Viables and Black Dam with its shops. Eastrop looks westward towards the town and the Fairfields area. There are shared facilities such as a restaurant and take away in Black Dam, Fairfields Primary School, Rucstall Primary School and The Costello School.

Our proposed ward is forecast to have 7,635 electors in 2023 which is 4.6% below electoral equality.

3.14 Brighton Hill ward

In 2007 the polling district of EP was transferred from the Hatch Warren ward to Brighton Hill South ward. We are proposing transferring it back so we can unite the rest of Brighton Hill South with Brighton Hill North, to form a three member ward forecast to have 7930 electors in 2023. This is only 1% below electoral equality. Given the geographical and historical links of the existing wards we felt that these two should be re-united.

Brighton Hill considers itself to be one community which was developed from the 1970s onwards with mainly clearly defined boundaries – The Harrow Way, the rear of Winchester Road, the M3 and the roads accessed from Gerswin Road. The houses were either built as owner-occupied or Council owned. The Council houses were either purchased by their tenants or, in 1995, transferred to Kingfisher Housing Association (now Sovereign Kingfisher Housing Association). They have many shared facilities such as shops, schools, doctors' surgery, dentist and schools.

3.15 Hatch Warren and Beggarwood ward

Hatch Warren was built in the mid 1980s onwards with shared facilities of shops, schools and Community Centre and it was linked in 2002 to the new development of Beggarwood Lane, adjacent to it with good communication and community links between the two.

The current ward is forecast to be 18.6% below electoral equality in 2023 assuming we have 54 councillors. Therefore we are proposing restoring the areas which were removed from it in the 2007 Boundary Review. These are (a) polling district EP - the Hatch Warren Lane area off of Cliddesden Lane comprising some of Hatch Warren Lane, Birches Crest and the Beeches (219 electors in 2017 and forecast to have 202 electors in 2023). This will re-unite this part of Hatch Warren Lane, which currently is partly in Brighton Hill South and partly in Hatch Warren behind The Cornfields. The boundary in this area will be again the rear of the properties in Ellington Drive and Matthias Walk. The area has footpath links with Hatch Warren and vehicular access via Cliddesden Lane, which is one of the main distribution roads of Hatch Warren. And (b) polling district FS – Kempshott Rise which was part of Hatch Warren from 1992 until 2007 and like the rest of the ward lies south of the A30 which divides it from the rest of the current Kempshott ward. It shares the same access to the A30 as large parts of Hatch Warren. It has similar types of houses as the rest of Hatch Warren, as it was built about the same time.

Our proposed amended ward will have clear boundaries – the A30, the M3, the parish boundary of Drummer and the rear of the boundaries of properties between Hatch Warren and Brighton Hill. It is forecast to have 7,297 electors in 2023 which is 8.8% below electoral equality.

3.16 Winklebury ward

The heart of Winklebury is a recognised community but in 2007 part of the ward (now polling district EU) was transferred to Buckskin. This area has strong links with Winklebury. For example St Thomas of Canterbury Church has always had strong links with Winklebury and residents of Winklebury had the right to be buried in its church yard. Now it has been amalgamated with the Church of the Good Shepherd at Winklebury Centre into one parish. Glebe Lane, Wykeham Drive, Becket Close, Carbonel Close and Aylings Close all access out via Roman Road with access also into Tiverton Road currently in the Winklebury ward. Roman Road is split between Buckskin and Winklebury. Restoring the boundary to the railway line west of the railway bridge, and Worting Road east of the bridge creates clear boundaries.

Before 1992 the polling district of FY was a separate one-member ward which had existed at least from 1976. It was then united with most of the current Brookvale and Kings Furlong ward until 2002. Until 2005 it was united with Winklebury and Brookvale and Kings Furlong in the Basingstoke North-West division of Hampshire County Council. The Kingsclere Road links this area to Winklebury and it is on one of the pedestrian routes into town from Winklebury. The number 6 bus takes this route from Winklebury into the town centre entering via Chapel Hill. The Houndmills Industrial estate also unites the areas.

The Winklebury Junior and Infant schools are facilities which are shared across the area.

Our proposed ward is forecast to have 8,287 electors in 2023 which is 3.6% above electoral equality.

3.17 South Ham ward

South Ham has been developing since the 1930s with most of it being completed by the early 1970s. It was mainly Council housing and is now mixed owner-occupied and housing association properties. The Ringway West forms a clear boundary to the east, the Winchester Road to the south, the railway line to the further northern parts and then Worting Road. According to South Ham Direct, who are working together to improve the area, the area consists not only of the core area of South Ham, but also the Berg Estate and South Ham extension. It is this community which we propose uniting into one ward with the current western boundary of polling district ET forming most of the western boundary of the expanded ward.

Before 1992 the Berg Estate (polling districts HF and HFA) was in a ward named Westside and included St Michael's Road and Paddock Road. The area even had its own community facilities. The Berg Estate shares the facilities at Buckskin Parade (which was built to service it in the 1950s) with the Stag Hill part of South Ham, linking into the area of South Ham via Buckland Avenue and Pinkerton Road.

The South Ham Extension (ET), which is currently in Buckskin has no direct road links to the rest of Buckskin. However, it has road links into South Ham via St Peter's Road and St Michael's Road. The whole area forms one community with shared facilities of schools, shops, doctors' surgery, dentist and a library.

Our proposed ward is forecast to have 7,563 electors in 2023 which is 5.5% below electoral equality.

3.18 Kempshott and Buckskin ward

To achieve electoral equality we are proposing uniting Kempshott and the core of Buckskin, focused on the rest of Old Kempshott Lane and Buckskin Lane. The properties of Old Kempshott Lane and southern Buckskin Lane are similar to those in Kempshott Lane and Pack Lane, being built before the 1950s and centred on Fiveways. These areas share the facilities in Pack Lane such as shops and the village hall. Later development in the area happened at about the same time. They share community facilities such as local shops, churches and schools. Between 2002 and 2008 polling district EV which include parts of Old Kempshott Lane and Buckskin Lane were in the Kempshott ward.

Our proposed ward is forecast to have 8,352 electors in 2023 which is 4.4% above electoral equality.

4 Alternative Tadley and Baughurst Common and Baughurst, Kingsclere, Tadley South and Pamber wards

We are also concerned about the odd boundary between Baughurst Common ward and Baughurst ward of Baughurst Parish. We would therefore like the Boundary Commission to

consider modifying the boundary between them by moving it from the centre of Heath End Road to either the middle of Bishopswood Lane or to the rear of the properties in Bishopswood Lane (see map D Lib Dem Group Suggested Boundary Changes Baughurst Parish).

Option 1 would move the boundary to the middle of Bishopswood Lane and the number of electors being moved based on the current register would be:

Ash Lane 6 electors
Heath End Road 22 electors
Heath House 12 electors
Oaklands 6 electors

Total 46 electors

Our proposed Tadley and Baughurst ward's electoral equality would be improved to 2.7% below, whilst our Baughurst, Kingsclere, Tadley South and Pamber ward's would be improved to 5.6% above.

Option 2 would move the boundary to the rear of the properties in Bishopswood Lane and involve moving those listed above plus a further 19 electors in Bishopswood Lane, totally 65 electors.

This would also improve electoral equality to 2.5% below and 5.4% above respectively.

5 Conclusion

We are proposing 18 three-member wards all of which are within 8.8% of electoral equality, based on the interests and identities of our local communities. We feel that this balances community identities, ties and interests, easily identifiable boundaries, the need for effective and convenient local government and the need for equality of representation and hope that the Boundary Commission will base its draft recommendations on these proposals.

We also hope that the Boundary Commission will recommend that the boundary between the Baughurst and Baughurst Common wards of the Baughurst Parish should be modified in one of the two ways we have suggested.

Basingstoke & Deane Polling Districts

Map A Lib Dem Group Outer Boundaries



