

Isle of Wight

Personal Details:

Name: Michael Lilley
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: Ryde East IW Councillor

Comment text:

Ryde East Ward – Proposed Boundary Changes Background The Isle of Wight Council have not undertaken an open and transparent discussion in putting forward their proposed 40 IW Council boundary changes with the biggest injustice being made in the complete redefinition of Ryde East Ward. IW Council has ignored the local resident and Local Councillor suggestion that the proposed new housing developments in the Ward which would increase the number of voters from approximately 2800 to 4300, naturally fit within Ryde South. The proposed Boundary changes by Isle of Wight Council for Ryde East split the existing cohesive communities of Appley and Elmfield to create a totally new manufactured ward of half of Elmfield and Pennyfeathers. Appley and Elmfield have current and historic identities (See below descriptions from Wikipedia). Ryde South Ward is principally the suburb of Ryde known as Oakfield, whilst Ryde East Ward is made up principally of the historic community areas of Appley and Elmfield. The proposed boundary changes put forward by IW Council divide the currently cohesive and historic communities of Appley and Elmfield and in fact divide Elmfield into two parts across two wards without making any changes to Ryde South in any way. Communities of Appley and Elmfield These communities were principally developed in late 1880s as part of the established estates around farms in the area. The design of the roads and street layout are intertwined with around the remains of the estates and connect with Appley Beach and Park. Ryde East (Appley and Elmfield) is a current cohesive community and this is evidenced by the following:

- The Appley and Elmfield communities (Ryde East) are served by St. John's Church (1843) and St.John's Church Hall has always been traditionally cited as the community centre for Ryde East. It is at the top of High Park Road which is the main spine road of the Ward. The proposed boundary changes by IW Council cut this road in half. For many years there was a Ryde East Community Association which was based at St John's Church Hall. This ceased to operate due to financial cuts but it now called Ryde East Citizen's Panel. The panel meets monthly with the Local Councillor as the elected member at St.John's Hall. There is a quarterly newsletter that goes to all Ryde East households.
- High Park Tavern is in the centre of Marlborough Road and a traditional local pub and serves the community.
- Co-op Shop and Post Office is near the High Park Tavern and in the Centre of the Community.
- Westridge Farm is the last remaining working farm in Ryde and the area and its land is the East boundary of the Ryde East Ward. It provides milk and eggs to the local community.
- Appley Park and Beach are the nearest public green landscape and seascape and served the Ryde East Community and friends of Appley are made up principally of people living in Appley and Elmfield. Currently this community is campaigning to reopen Appley Tower for community use.

Pennyfeathers This Ryde East Ward boundary change is triggered by the fact that there is outline planning permission for 900 plus houses to be built on fields in the south of the Ward known as Pennyfeathers. This land historically was connected to a farm, Great Preston Farm, which is now next to Nicolson Road Industrial estate and within Ryde South. It was the land of the farm that much of the housing known as Oakfield is built and the principal component of Ryde South Ward. In fact, geographically, Pennyfeathers is directly south of Oakfield as they share the natural boundaries of the railway line and Great Preston Road. Proposal for Boundary Changes in Ryde (Alternative Plan put forward by IW Council) The logical boundary change would be to use the natural boundaries of the railway line and main roads such as St.John's Road and Great Preston Road. This would naturally increase and decrease the number of voters into the Ryde Wards and help in improving community cohesiveness.

1. The proposed new Ryde South would have all households East of Railway Line, South of St.John's Hill, West of Alexandra Road/ Great Preston Road, and North of Brading Road. This would bring Oakfield and Pennyfeathers together. There is within the proposed development plans for the area on Pennyfeathers and land titled Nicolson Road, a new health centre, a school and community centre which will serve the existing and future communities.
2. Ryde East (retitled Appley and Elmfield) – goes from Appley Beach to the North, East of East Hill to Seaview & Nettlestone Parish Boundary, East of Great Preston/Alexandra Road, and North of Bullen/Great Preston Road.
3. Ryde West has all households West of railway line
4. Ryde North has all houses north of St John's Hill and West of East Hill.

Further information about Appley and Elmfield "Elmfield is a suburb of the town of Ryde on the Isle of Wight, in England. It is

situated south-east of the town centre on a small hill. St John's Church is a notable landmark on the north side of Elmfield. Oakfield lies directly to the West, Appley to the North, Seaview and Nettleston to the East and Westridge to the South. The community is mainly based on the A3055 Marlborough Road, with additional shopping facilities in nearby Somerset Road. Public transport is provided by Southern Vectis buses on route 3. The nearest railway station is Ryde St John's Road, situated in lower Oakfield." As referenced from Wikipedia. "Appley is an area of Ryde on the Isle of Wight.. Until the early 1960s, it was largely based on the former English country house of Appley Towers [REDACTED] and neighbouring Appley Farm. The area's character changed with the construction of the Appley housing estate - a development of mainly detached houses and bungalows, built on either side of the B3330 Ryde to St Helens road. The names of the roads on the estate relate mostly either to proximity of the sea (Marina, Solent) or refer to Cumbrian lakes (Grasmere, Derwent). The area to the north of the Appley housing estate is now a public park, with the Solent beyond. The stone-built tower by the sea wall dates from the days [REDACTED] as does the parkland itself, the latter being laid out [REDACTED] in 1798. In 2008, Appley Park became the first open space on the Isle of Wight to be awarded a Green Flag. The large villa just off the B3330 road, known previously as "Little Appley" at one time accommodated a school, as shown by the remaining sports field which adjoins it. This field is the home of archery club Wight Bowmen. The former school building now operates as a hotel and restaurant under the name Appley Manor. Appley House was [REDACTED] As referenced in Wikipedia.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded