

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No.261

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 261

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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To the Rt Hon Marlyn Rees, MP,
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR REVISED ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE
DISTRICT OF COTSWOLD IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the District of Cotswold in accordance with the requirements of section 63 of, and Schedule 9 to, the Local Government Act 1972, present our proposals for the future electoral arrangements for that district.
2. In accordance with the procedure laid down in section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 21 April 1975 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to the Cotswold District Council, copies of which were circulated to the Gloucestershire County Council, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned, Parish Councils, and Parish Meetings in the district and the headquarters of the main political parties. Copies were also sent to the editors of local newspapers circulating in the area and of the local government press. Notices inserted in the local press announced the start of the review and invited comments from members of the public and from any interested bodies.
3. Cotswold District Council were invited to prepare a draft scheme of representation for our consideration. In doing so, they were asked to observe the rules laid down in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 and the guidelines which we set out in our Report No 6 about the proposed size of the Council and the proposed number of councillors for each ward. They were asked also to take into account any views expressed to them following their consultation with local interests. We therefore asked that they should publish

details of their provisional proposals about a month before they submitted their draft scheme to us, thus allowing an opportunity for local comment.

4. In accordance with section 7(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council have exercised an option for a system of whole council elections.

5. On 5 November 1975 the Cotswold District Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area into 33 wards each returning one, two or three members to form a council of 45, the same number as at present.

6. Following the District Council's publication of their draft scheme, we received comments from several parish councils, district councillors and a local political party. Hatherop Parish Council wrote to us suggesting the grouping of the parishes of Coln St Aldwyns, Hatherop, Quenington, Eastleach, Southrop and Bibury for district electoral purposes. Coln St Aldwyns Parish Council and Avening Parish Council sought the retention of the existing arrangements for ward 16 and wards 1 and 4 respectively. Quenington Parish Council also expressed their satisfaction with the present ward 16 and were opposed to the idea of their parish being included in the proposed Fairford ward, while Siddington Parish Council objected to the proposal not to group their parish with Preston Parish. This objection was supported by a letter from Preston Village meeting. Fairford Parish Council requested that they should either have separate representation on the District Council or be grouped with Kempsford Parish for district electoral purposes. Six district councillors suggested alternative groupings for the parishes in the southeastern part of the district. Stow-on-the-Wold Parish Council requested an alteration to the Stow-on-the-Wold/Maugersbury parish boundary and extra representation for their area. Fairford Parish Council requested an alteration to the Fairford/Kempsford parish boundary.

7. We considered the draft scheme together with the comments which had been made to us and we reviewed those proposals which the District Council had received at an earlier stage in the preparation of the scheme, but which they had not felt able to adopt. We noted that although faced with a number of difficulties owing to the size and character of the district, the Council had succeeded in achieving a high standard of equality of representation in accordance with the rules in the Local Government Act 1972. This had drawn opposition from a number of parishes, particularly those in the south but we felt that the District Council's draft scheme provided a reasonable basis for the future electoral arrangements for the district in compliance with the rules in Schedule 11 to the Act and our guidelines and we formulated draft proposals accordingly.

8. We issued our draft proposals on 21 April 1976 and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or who had commented on the Council's draft schemes. The Council were asked to make these draft proposals and the accompanying map which defined the proposed ward boundaries, available for inspection at their main offices. Representations on our draft proposals were invited from those to whom they were circulated and, by public notices, from other members of the public and interested bodies. We asked for comments to reach us by 21 June 1976.

9. The Cotswold District Council made no comment but the parish councils of Coln St Aldwyns, Quenington, Siddington and Preston, two district councillors and the local political party reiterated their previous comments. Eastleach Parish Council objected to the grouping of the parishes in the proposed Coln, Fairford and Sherborne Brook wards and Shipton Moyne Parish Council and a district councillor objected to the grouping of the parishes in the proposed Avening and Tetbury wards. The local political party and one of the district councillors who had already submitted comments on the draft scheme now wrote in support of Fairford Parish Council's renewed request for a parish boundary alteration.

10. In view of these comments, we considered that we needed further information to enable us to reach a conclusion. Therefore, in accordance with Section 65(2) of the 1972 Act, and at our request, Mr D B F P Leigh was appointed as an Assistant Commissioner to hold a local meeting and report to us.

11. The Assistant Commissioner held a meeting at the Council Chamber, Cirencester on 4 November 1976. A copy of his report to us of the meeting is attached at Schedule 1 to this report.

12. The Assistant Commissioner recommended that our draft proposals should be modified so as to include the parish of Quenington in Coln ward instead of Fairford ward and to adjust the boundary between Cirencester Chesterton ward and Cirencester Watermoor ward.

13. We considered our draft proposals again in the light of the comments which we had received and of the Assistant Commissioner's report. We concluded that the alterations recommended by the Assistant Commissioner should be adopted and, subject to these amendments, we decided that our draft proposals should be confirmed as our final proposals.

14. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedules 2 and 3 to this report and on the attached map. Schedule 2 defines the areas of the new wards and Schedule 3 gives the names of the wards and the number of councillors to be returned by each ward. The boundaries of the new wards are illustrated on the map.

PUBLICATION

15. In accordance with section 60(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, a copy of this report and a copy of the map are being sent to Cotswold District Council and will be made available for public inspection at the Council's main

offices. Copies of this report (without the map) are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter and to those who made comments.

L.S.

Signed:

EDMUND COMPTON (Chairman)

JOHN M RANKIN (Deputy Chairman)

PHYLLIS BOWDEN

J T BROCKBANK

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

R R THORNTON

ANDREW WHEATLEY

N DIGNEY (Secretary)

29th September 1977

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

DISTRICT OF COTSWOLD

REPORT OF ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Assistant Commissioner:

Mr. D.B.F.P. Leigh

Date of Meeting:

4th November 1976

File No:

LGBC/D/16/5

1.1 On the 4th November 1976 I held a meeting in the Council Chamber, Dyer Street, Cirencester, to hear representations on the draft proposals published by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England for the electoral arrangements for the district of Cotswold.

1.2 The following day I visited areas discussed at the meeting.

1.3 A list showing those attending the meeting and the interests they represented is attached (Document 1.)

Cirencester Chesterton WardCirencester Watermoor Ward2.1 Commissions Proposals

Under the Commission's proposals the Cirencester Chesterton Ward consists of the Chesterton Ward of the parish of Cirencester as proposed by the Cotswold District Council and returns 2 district councillors. The Cirencester Watermoor Ward consists of the Watermoor Ward of the parish of Cirencester as proposed by the Cotswold District Council and returns 2 district councillors.

2.2 Representations

Mrs G. Logan representing the Labour Party, Cirencester and District Local Branch, said that the Ward boundaries had been re-arranged so that some roads traditionally regarded as part of Watermoor were now included in Chesterton. The area concerned, north east of Somerford Road, included Kingsmead, Bridge Road, Nursery Road and Close, Ermin Place and part of Siddington Road. The opinion of local residents had been sought and nearly all had signed a petition asking for a reconsideration of the boundary. There had been insufficient local consultation and old people in particular would find their polling station too far away. Any imbalance in the number of electors could be corrected by transferring Ashcroft and the adjoining roads from Watermoor to Chesterton. Mrs M.J. Jacobs, a District Councillor for Chesterton Ward, supported the objection. Mr. M. Grace, a District Councillor for Chesterton Ward agreed. He had been born in Chesterton and had held a Ward meeting to sound out local opinion on the ward boundary. Mr. G. Hayward, Ratepayers Petition Organiser, Watermoor Area strongly

agreed with the objection and felt that the boundary as proposed would make voting very difficult for the elderly. Mr. J.H. Marshall, Chairman, Cirencester Town Council saw no objection to the Labour Party proposal.

2.3 Mr. C. Barton Director of Administration Cotswold District Council, said that the Council had no objection to the Labour Party proposal. He submitted a plan (Document 2) showing the area to be taken out of Watermoor and put into Chesterton and said that should the Commission accept the Labour Party proposal the District Council would be recommended to make a new order establishing the ward boundaries accordingly. He submitted a table (Document 3) showing the 1975 electorate and revised forecasts for the 1980 electorate. This shows that, on the assumption that the area shown on the plan (Document 2) is transferred from Watermoor to Chesterton, the 1980 electorate for Chesterton will be 2850 and for Watermoor 2800. No compensatory transfer from the Ashcroft Road area of Watermoor would therefore be necessary.

Assessment

2.4 All those who spoke at the meeting were clearly in favour of the Labour Party proposal and the District Council raised no objection to it. Moreover the petition would indicate that many local residents in the affected area wish to return to the old arrangement under which they voted in Watermoor. The revised forecasts for the 1980 electorate shows that if the proposal were accepted Chesterton and

Watermoor would achieve a good standard of parity of representation (2850 and 2800 electors respectively). The District Council have indicated their willingness to consider making the necessary warding order and I therefore

RECOMMEND that the boundary between Cirencester Chesterton and Cirencester Watermoor Wards be re-drawn as shown by the dotted green line on the plan submitted (Document 2)

HorcottCommission's Proposals

- 3.1 Under the Commission's proposals Horcott is a polling district but not a ward of the parish of Kempford which is a district council ward and returns one district Councillor. Fairford Ward comprises the parishes of Fairford and Quenington and returns one district Councillor.

Representations

- 3.2 Mr. E. Harwood Fairford Parish Councillor representing the Fairford and District Liberal Association proposed that Horcott should be grouped with Fairford for district council elections and put in a statement (Document 4). Horcott was linked geographically and socially with Fairford and did not belong in Kempford. Major J.R.D. Mayne District Councillor, Ward 16 agreed. Mrs. V. Hedges Chairman, Kempford Parish Council felt that Horcott should remain in Kempford Ward, with which it had social ties. The Revd. Mr D. Watson, District Councillor Kempford, considered that Horcott should go with Fairford as did Mr. D. Bridges Vice-Chairman, Fairford Parish Council and Mr. W. Scott Thomlinson District Councillor, Fairford.
- 3.3 Mr. C. Barton Director of Administration, Cotswold District Council said that the District Council had to have regard to the number of the electors in each ward. He referred to the table showing the revised forecast of the 1980 electorate (Document 3). Without Horcott, the 1980 electorate of Kempford Ward would be only 605. Horcott would have 350 electors by that date. Any change in the parish boundaries of Kempford and Fairford should await a general review of parish boundaries.

3.4 I explained to the meeting that there was no power under the present review of electoral arrangements to alter parish boundaries. Procedurally it would be open to the district council to make an order under Section 50(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972 to make Horcott a ward of the Parish of Kempford which for electoral purposes could be included in the same ward as Fairford. Major J.R.D. Mayne said that the District Councils Committee had not been unanimous in their views about Horcott and he had wished to have a minority report on the matter. Mr. J. McClean District Councillor for Ward No.6 also stressed that the District Council had divided opinion on the Horcott problem.

Assessment

3.5 There may well be a greater affinity between Horcott and Fairford than between Horcott and Kempford, though opinion is divided on this, but the parish boundaries cannot be changed by the present review of district council electoral arrangements. While it would be possible, as mentioned in paragraph 3.4 above, for the District Council to include Horcott in Fairford Ward for the purpose of district council elections they would take the view that any parish boundary alteration should await the general review of parish boundaries. If Horcott were included in Fairford Ward, Kempford Ward would be left with a 1980 forecast electorate of 605 against an average (based on a 45 member council) of 1174. Its entitlement would be 0.51 and in the light of the rules in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act, which require that the number of electors to the number of councillors shall be, as nearly as may be, the same in every district ward, such an entitlement is unlikely to be acceptable.

Ampneys
 Coln
 Fairford
 Kempsford
 Lechlade
 Sherbourne Brook
Water Park

Commission's Proposals

4.1 Under the Commission's proposals these wards are constituted as follows:

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---|
| Ampneys | (1 Councillor) | 1. Ampney Crucis 2. Ampney St.Mary 3. Ampney St.Peter 4. Driffield 5. Preston |
| Coln | (1 Councillor) | 1. Barnsley 2. Winson 3. Bibury 4. Coln St. Aldwyns 5. Hatherop |
| Fairford | (2 Councillors) | 1. Fairford 2. Quenington |
| Kempsford | (1 Councillor) | Kempsford |
| Lechlade | (1 Councillor) | Lechlade |
| Sherbourne Brook | (1 Councillor) | 1. Farmington 2. Sherbourne 3. Barrington 4. Windrush 5. Aldsworth 6. Eastleach 7. Southrop |
| Water Park | (2 Councillors) | 1. Pool Keynes 2. Somerford Keynes 3. Siddington 4. South Cerney |

Representations

4.2

Mrs. V. Moulden, District Councillor, Ward 16, referred to the existing composition of Ward 16 which comprises the parishes of Bibury, Coln St. Aldwyns, Eastleach, Southrop, Winson, Hatherop and Quenington and returned 2 district councillors. The grouping of Coln St. Aldwyns, Hatherop and Quenington (known locally and hereafter referred to as 'CHQ') was a natural one and should be preserved. Southrop and Eastleach could also be included in a group of parishes returning 2 district councillors. Mr. R.F. Meade, Clerk to Quenington Parish Council, agreed. If the existing Ward 16 could not remain, CHQ at least should be kept together because of their close geographical and social links. Mr. W. Scott Thomlinson, District Councillor, Fairford, said that Fairford were not in favour of having Quenington joined with it in the proposed Fairford Ward. CHQ should not be split up for the reasons stated. Fairford would be content to be represented by 1 district councillor. Mrs. C. Squire Clerk to Eastleach Parish Council reported that Eastleach wished to continue to be warded with CHQ. Mr. M.Hinton representing Southrop Parish Council agreed that CHQ should remain together. Southrop had nothing in common with the other parishes in the proposed Sherbourne Brook Ward. They preferred the Ward 16 grouping but if this could not remain they wished to be in the same ward as CHQ. Mr. E.E. Warne representing Lechlade Parish Council agreed with the remarks made about CHQ., which he felt should be seen on the ground and said that Lechlade would prefer to remain as a single parish ward. Mr. F.M.B. Meade, elector Quenington Parish felt that Quenington should be in the proposed Coln Ward rather than in Fairford. If the Ward 16 grouping could not continue, at least CHQ should be kept together in the same ward. Mr. H. Stuart, representing Coln St. Aldwyns Parish Council, agreed. CHQ was the natural grouping. Quenington had no bus service to Fairford. Major J.R.D. Mayne, District Councillor,

Ward 16, drew attention to the difficulties that district councillors would have in covering the proposed wards in the south-east of the district.

4.3 Mr. J. McClean District Councillor, Ward 6 and representing Siddington Parish Council, said that two-thirds of the Preston electorate lived in Siddington. The Water Park Ward should consist of the parish of South Cerney and should return 1 district councillor. Siddington should go with Preston. The population forecasts were suspect. The Revd. J. Kelly representing Preston Parish Council confirmed that 66% of the Preston electorate lived in Siddington and attended Siddington Church. Siddington and Preston had close social and practical ties and should stay together. Mr. J. George representing South Cerney Parish Council, felt that the best solution was for South Cerney parish to remain a separate ward.

4.4 Mr. C. Barton Director of Administration, Cotswold District Council explained that in drawing up their proposals for a 45 member Council the district council had tried to keep the number of electors in each ward to within a 20% deviation from the average. On the revised forecast for 1980 the average electorate per member would be 1174 and the acceptable range between 939 and 1409. On this basis, the inclusion of Quenington in Coln Ward would produce an acceptable 1980 electorate for that ward of 1338 but Fairford Ward without Quenington would have 1712 electors. A combination of CHQ with Eastleach and Southrop in one ward would give 1070 electors, within the acceptable range, but Sherbourne Brook Ward would be down to 870. If Southrop were put into Lechlade Ward, the 1980 electorate would be 1557, somewhat outside the tolerance regarded as reasonable.

4.5 Some discussion ensued about another possible re-grouping of parishes to form the following wards:

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--|
| Sherbourne Brook | (1 Councillor) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Farmington 2. Sherbourne 3. Barrington 4. Windrush 5. Aldsworth |
| Coln and Leach | (2 Councillors) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Barnsley 2. Winson 3. Bibury 4. Coln St. Aldwyns 5. Eastleach 6. Hatherop 7. Southrop 8. Quenington 9. Meysey Hampton |
| Fairford | (2 Councillors) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fairford 2. Kempsford |
| Ampneys | (1 Councillor) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ampney Crucis 2. Ampney St. Mary 3. Ampney St. Peter 4. Poulton 5. Down Ampney 6. Driffield |
| South Cerney | (1 Councillor) | South Cerney |
| Siddington | (1 Councillor) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preston 2. Siddington 3. Somerford Keynes 4. Pool Keynes |

Not surprisingly this produced a mixed re-action. The principal objections came from Mr. A.W.Hurry District Councillor, Ward 8 and Chairman, Meysey Hampton Parish Council, who greatly preferred the proposed Hampton Ward (parishes of Meysey Hampton, Poulton and Down Ampney) which was an ideal grouping.

Mr. R. Pile representing Ampney Crucis Parish Council thought the Commission's proposed Ampneys Ward better than the alternative, which was too wide and not good geographically. The Ampneys and Drifffield should remain together, possibly with Barnsley. Mr. W. Scott Thomlinson said that Fairford would not wish to be joined to Kempsford.

Mr. A.R. Lodge representing Down Ampney Parish Council confirmed that they were satisfied with the Commission's proposal for the Hampton Ward. Down Ampney stood apart from the other Ampneys and was a united benefice with Poulton. Major P. Morris Keating County Councillor, Tetbury, expressed some reservations about the large size of the Coln Ward in the alternative proposal.

4.6 On the other hand Mrs. C. Squire (Eastleach) Major J.R.D. Mayne (Ward 16) Mr. J. McLean (Ward 6) Mr. J. George (South Cerney) and Mr. R.F. Meade (Quenington) thought that the alternative proposal was likely to prove satisfactory. The possibility of a 5 member ward comprising the parishes of South Cerney, Preston, Siddington, Somerford Keynes and Pool Keynes was not thought by Mr. J. McClean to be so satisfactory a solution although Mr. C. Barton said that the revised 1980 forecast of 3099 would produce an electorate per councillor of 1033 which would be within the District Council's tolerance.

Assessment

4.7 No re-arrangement of the parishes in the wards in the south-east of the district will produce a solution that is wholly satisfactory from the point of view of maintaining electoral equality while at the same time meeting the wishes of all those who have made representations concerning the Commission's proposals. It should also be recognised that the District Council's Scheme, which was adopted by the Commission on its proposals, offers a high degree of numerical equality, given the size and character of the district, and that under the 1972 Act this is a prime consideration now that the concept of rural weighting has been repealed.

4.8 One alternative would be to retain the existing electoral arrangements for Wards 9, 16 and 17 which would produce the following result:

| <u>Ward</u> | <u>No. of Councillors</u> | <u>1980</u> | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | <u>Electorate</u> | <u>Entitlement</u> |
| 9 | 1 | 1712 | 1.46 |
| 16 | 2 | 1606 | 1.37 |
| 17 | 1 | 827 | 0.70 |

Although this would meet the wishes of many of the parishes concerned, the entitlements of Wards 16 and 17 are unfortunately such as could not be recommended.

4.9 The re-grouping described in paragraph 4.5 above overcomes some objections but gives rise to others from parishes such as Meysey Hampton, Ampney Crucis and Down Ampney who are satisfied with the Commission's proposals and do not want them to be changed. On balance I do not think that there is an advantage to be gained by adopting it.

4.10 The suggestion that Southrop might be transferred from Sherbourne Brook Ward to Lechlade Ward did not attract support from either Southrop, who wished to remain in the Ward 16 grouping, or from Lechlade, who would prefer to remain a single parish ward.

4.11 However, the statements made at the meeting and my inspection of the area, persuade me that the parishes of Coln St. Aldwyns, Hatherop and Quenington should, if at all possible, be grouped within the same ward because of their topographical and social links. The numerical effect of transferring Quenington from Fairford Ward to Coln Ward would be:

| <u>Ward</u> | <u>No. of Councillors</u> | <u>1980</u> | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | <u>Electorate</u> | <u>Entitlement</u> |
| Fairford | 2 (1) | 1712 | 1.46 (1.42) |
| Coln | 1 | 1538 | 1.14 (1.11) |

Fairford do not wish to be grouped with Quenington and Mr. W.Scott Thomlinson their district councillor, said that they would be satisfied to continue to be represented by one member. In this event the size of the Council would be reduced to 44 and the entitlement in the table above would be slightly improved as shown by the figures in brackets.

Despite the fact that the entitlements suffer to some extent I think that in the exceptional circumstances it is desirable that this change should be made.

4.12 Siddington and Preston parishes wish to remain in the same ward. The following table shows what would result if Preston were to be taken from Ampneys Ward and put into Water Park Ward

| <u>Ward</u> | <u>No. of Councillors</u> | <u>Electorate</u> | <u>1980 Entitlement</u> |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Water Park | 2 | 3099 | 2.64 |
| Ampneys | 1 | 650 | 0.56 |

It would not be feasible, if only for geographical reasons, to include Siddington in Ampneys Ward, as this would virtually detach South Cerney from the rest of Water Park Ward. It will be seen that Water Park Ward would be seriously under-represented while Ampneys Ward would have an entitlement (0.56) difficult to defend. Although there are links between Siddington and Preston, especially ecclesiastical ones, it would not seem to me that the transfer of Preston into Water Park Ward can, in all the circumstances, be justified.

I therefore

RECOMMEND

1. That the parish of Quenington be transferred from Fairford Ward to Coln Ward.
2. That in other respects the Commission's proposals for the Ampneys, Coln, Fairford, Kempsford, Lechlade, Sherbourne Brook and Water Park Wards remain unaltered.

Avening
Tetbury
Grumbolds Ash

5.1 Commission's Proposals

Under the Commission's proposals these Wards are constituted as follows:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---|
| Avening | (1 Councillor) | 1. Ashley 2. Avening 3. Cherington 4. Long Newton 5. Shipton Moyne |
| Tetbury | (3 Councillors) | 1. Tetbury 2. Tetbury Upton |
| Grumbolds Ash | (1 Councillor) | 1. Beverstone 2. Boxwell with Leighterton 3. Didmarton 4. Kingscote 5. Ozleworth 6. Westonbirt with Lasborough |

Representations

5.2 Major P. Morris Keating, County Councillor Tetbury and representing Long Newton Parish Council referred to the existing ward structure which is as follows:

| | | |
|---------|-----------------|---|
| Ward 1. | (2 Councillors) | Tetbury |
| Ward 2 | (1 Councillor) | 1. Beverstone 2. Boxwell with Leighterton 3. Didmarton 4. Kingscote 5. Ozleworth 6. Westonbirt with Lasborough |
| Ward 3 | (1 Councillor) | 1. Ashley 2. Long Newton 3. Shipton Moyne 4. Tetbury Upton |

Ward 4 (1 Councillor) 1. Avening
 2. Cherington

The Ward 4 grouping was preferable to the proposed Avening Ward.

In their letter of the 16th October 1975 to the District Council the Long Newnton Parish Council had drawn attention to the distance between Shipton Moyne and Avening. There was no common link between them.

The Parish Council felt that the area, which was rural, would be under-represented in the proposed Avening Ward. The 1980 forecast for Avening was on the low side. Mr. L.C. Jarrett, Clerk to Beverstone

Parish Council recognised that the Grumbolds Ash Ward was identical in composition with Ward 2. Mr. D. Reid District Councillor, Ward 3,

pointed out that Avening and Cherington were a long way away from the southerly part of Avening Ward and that the area would be unacceptably large. Tetbury Upton should not be grouped with Tetbury in the

proposed Tetbury Ward. It was a rural area quite different from the town of Tetbury which would probably grow to a size able to justify 3 Councillors for itself. The existing warding arrangements were

better than those proposed and should be retained, except that Tetbury should elect 3 district councillors. Mrs. M.E. Segui a member of

Avening Parish Council, who had objected to the proposed Avening Ward on the grounds that it would be too big did not agree that the population forecasts for Tetbury and Avening were correct, and said that the 1980 figure for the Avening Parish electorate of 713 was an under-estimate. The existing Ward structure should be retained.

5.3

Mr. C. Barton Director of Administration, Cotswold Rural

District, said that Tetbury Town Council and Tetbury Upton Parish Council had not objected to being joined together in the proposed Tetbury Ward and there was an affinity between them. Referring to the revised forecast of the 1980 electorate (Document 3) he pointed out that Cherington and Avening parishes (Ward 4) would have a combined electorate of 842. If Tetbury Upton were added to the proposed Avening Ward its 1980 electorate would become 1650 instead of 1306. If Tetbury Upton were added to Grumbolds Ash its 1980 electorate would become 1351 instead of 1007. Tetbury Ward, less Tetbury Upton, would have a 1980 electorate of 3200. If the old ward structure were retained, the 1980 figure for Ward 3 at 808 and Ward 4 at 842 would be too low to meet the District Council's criteria.

Assessment

5.4 If the ward structure remained in its existing form the position would be as shown in the following table:

| <u>Ward</u> | <u>No. of Councillors</u> | <u>1980</u> | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | <u>Electorate</u> | <u>Entitlement</u> |
| 1 | 2 | 3200 | 2.73 |
| 2 | 1 | 1007 | 0.86 |
| 3 | 1 | 808 | 0.69 |
| 4 | 1 | 842 | 0.72 |

By way of comparison, under the Commission's proposals the position would be

| <u>Ward</u> | <u>No. of Councillors</u> | <u>1980</u> | |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | | <u>Electorate</u> | <u>Entitlement</u> |
| Tetbury | 3 | 3544 | 3.02 |
| Crumbolds Ash | 1 | 1007 | 0.86 |
| Avening | 1 | 1306 | 1.11 |

It is apparent that the entitlements for Wards 1, 3 and 4 (wards 2 being identical with Crumbolds Ash) are markedly inferior to those for the proposed Tetbury and Avening Wards. While it is true that Avening Ward covers a wide area, neither its size nor the distance between its furthestmost parishes are exceptional by comparison with other rural wards in the district. It is also suggested that Tetbury is large enough to have 3 councillors. This will be the case under the Commission's proposals and could be so under the existing warding arrangements although the entitlement would not then provide as good a basis for a 3 councillor ward.

5.5 The other question as regards Tetbury Ward is whether Tetbury Upton should be joined with Tetbury as in the Commission's proposals. Tetbury Upon is a rural parish and might be added to Avening or Grumbolds Ash. The parishes in Grumbolds Ash have not, however, expressed any wish to have Tetbury Upton joined with them and the effect of so doing, though not profound, would weaken Tetbury's entitlement. If Tetbury Upton were added to Avening the size of this ward would be increased further and would result in its entitlement rising to 1.41, a far from satisfactory figure.

5.6 Figures apart, what determines my view of this matter is that the two authorities principally concerned, Tetbury and Tetbury Upton, have raised no objection to the proposal that they should be joined in the new Tetbury Ward and appear to be satisfied with this arrangement.

5.7 In connection with the forecast of the 1980 electorate for Avening (713), which was said to be too low, it is noted that the revised forecast (Document 3) mentions the possibility that this figure might rise to 750 if the Fieldwright development proceeds, although it has not yet begun. The putative increase of 37 does not alter the conclusions reached. I

RECOMMEND that the Commission's proposals for the Avening, Tetbury and Grumbolds Ash Wards remain unaltered.

Signed

Alex Leigh

Dated

8 Nov

December 1976

REVIEW OF DISTRICT ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS - DISTRICT OF COTSWOLD

LOCAL HEARING - 4TH NOVEMBER 1976

ATTENDANCE LIST

| NAME | AUTHORITY/ORGANISATION REPRESENTED (IF ANY) |
|------------------|--|
| K. Harvey | COTSWOLD D.C. |
| J. E. Shubyn | " " " |
| Council Reel | COUNCILLOR Cotswold District Council - WARD NOS. |
| b. Pott | " " " |
| Martin Hammond | Fairford Liberal Association |
| Vergis Bridges | VICE CHAIRMAN FAIRFORD PARISH COUNCIL |
| Michael Kibba | SOUTHROP P.C. |
| J. H. Marshall | Chairman Cirencester Town Council |
| Mildred Goss | Town Councillor (Cheriton Ward) |
| Susan Hayward | Kate Poyser Potters Organiser Westmore Area |
| A. R. Lodge | Innon Ampney Parish Council |
| G. W. Kelly | Parish Council Council Rep. |
| J. H. Clark | Siddington Parish Council ^{had small} _{with ward.} |
| J. Wogan | Labour Party |
| John Leonard | South Cotswold P.C. |
| Dorothy Moulden | Cotswold District Councillor W. 16. |
| Robert F. M. de | CLERK, QUEENINGTON PARISH COUNCIL. |
| Glanish Stuart | Coln St. Alwyns Parish Council |
| G. B. Meade | Elector Queenington Parish |
| Celia Squire | Clerk, Eastlea Parish Council |
| Jim E. Siggen | Living Parish Council. |
| L. S. Jarrett | Beverstone Parish Council |
| D. WATSON. | C.D.C. Kington (Ward 10). |
| Vera Fledges | Chairman Honeyford Parish Council |
| William W. Curry | Chairman, Mepey Hampden PC / councillor & St |
| G. B. Ham. | Representing Leckham P.C. |
| T. T. G. G. G. | Cirencester T.C. Cheriton Ward. |
| J. R. D. Maime | Cotswold District Council |

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION

REVIEW OF DISTRICT ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS - DISTRICT OF COTSWOLD

LOCAL HEARING - 4TH NOVEMBER 1976

ATTENDANCE LIST

| NAME | AUTHORITY/ORGANISATION REPRESENTED (IF ANY) |
|--------------------|---|
| P.S. Boris Keating | Long Newton P.C. |

DISTRICT OF COTSWOLD : DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

AMPNEYS WARD

The parishes of Ampney Crucis
Ampney St Mary
Ampney St Peter
Driffield
Preston

AVENING WARD

The parishes of Ashley
Avening
Cherington
Long Newnton
Shipton Moyne

BEACON WARD

The parishes of Bledington
Great Rissington
Icomb
Little Rissington
Westcote
Wick Rissington

BLOCKLEY WARD

The parish of Blockley

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER WARD

The parishes of Clapton
Bourton-on-the-Water

CAMPDEN WARD

The parishes of Ebrington
Chipping Campden

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| CIRENCESTER ABBEY WARD | The Abbey Ward of the parish of Cirencester |
| CIRENCESTER BEECHES WARD | The Beeches Ward of the parish of Cirencester |
| CIRENCESTER CHESTERTON WARD | The Chesterton Ward of the parish of Cirencester |
| CIRENCESTER STRATTON WARD | The Stratton Ward of the parish of Cirencester |
| CIRENCESTER WATERMOOR WARD | The Watermoor Ward of the parish of Cirencester |
| CHURN VALLEY WARD | The parishes of Colesbourne Rendcomb North Cerney Bagendon Baunton |
| COLN WARD | The parishes of Barnsley Winson Bibury Coln St Aldwyns Hatherop Quenington |
| ERMIN WARD | The parishes of Brimpsfield Elkstone Syde Winstone |

Duntisbourne Abbots

Duntisbourne Rouse

Edgeworth

Daglingworth

EVENLODE VALE WARD

The parishes of Donnington

Broadwell

Evenlode

Adlestrop

Oddington

Maugersbury

FAIRFORD WARD

The parish of Fairford

FOSEHILL WARD

The parishes of Chedworth

Yanworth

Compton Abdale

Hampnett

Turkdean

Hazleton

Notgrove

Cold Aston

FOSSERIDGE WARD

The parishes of Todenham

Batsford

Bourton-on-the-Hill

Sezincote

Longborough

Condicote

GRUMBOLD'S ASH WARD

The parishes of Kingscote

Ozleworth

Didmarton

Boxwell with Leighterton

Westonbirt with Lasborough

Beverstone

HAMPTON WARD

The parishes of Poulton

Down Ampney

Maiseyhampton

KEMPSFORD WARD

The parish of Kempsford

LECHLADE WARD

The parish of Lechlade

MICKLETON WARD

The parish of Mickleton

MORETON-IN-MARSH WARD

The parish of Moreton-in-Marsh

NORTHLEACH WARD

The parishes of Coln St Dennis

Northleach with Eastington

SANDYWELL WARD

The parishes of Withington

Dowdeswell

Andoversford

Sipton

Whittington

Sevenhampton

SHERBORNE BROOK WARD

The parishes of Farmington

Sherborne

Barrington

Windrush

Aldsworth

Eastleach

Southrop

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD WARD

The parish of Stow-on-the-Wold

TETBURY WARD

The parishes of Tetbury

Tetbury Upton

THAMES HEAD WARD

The parishes of Sapperton

Rodmarton

Coates

Kemble

THREE RIVERS WARD

The parishes of Cutsdean

Temple Guiting

Guiting Power

Naunton

Swell

Upper Slaughter

Lower Slaughter

VALE WARD

The parishes of Willersey

Saintbury

Aston Subedge

Weston Subedge

Weston Subedge (Det)

WATER PARK WARD

The parishes of Poole Keynes

Somerford Keynes

Siddington

South Cerney

MEMORANDUM OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FUTURE ELECTION OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COTSWOLD IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE

| <u>NAME OF WARD</u> | <u>NO OF COUNCILLORS</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ampneys | 1 |
| Avening | 1 |
| Beacon | 1 |
| Blockley | 1 |
| Bourton on the Water | 2 |
| Campden | 1 |
| Churn Valley | 1 |
| Cirencester Abbey | 2 |
| Cirencester Beeches | 2 |
| Cirencester Chesterton | 2 |
| Cirencester Stratton | 2 |
| Cirencester Watermoor | 2 |
| Coln | 1 |
| Ermin | 1 |
| Evenlode Vale | 1 |
| Fairford | 2 |
| Fossehill | 1 |
| Fosseridge | 1 |
| Grumbolds Ash | 1 |
| Hampton | 1 |
| Kempsford | 1 |
| Lechlade | 1 |
| Mickleton | 1 |
| Moreton in Marsh | 2 |
| Northleach | 1 |
| Sandywell | 1 |
| Sherborne Brook | 1 |
| Stow on the Wold | 1 |
| Tetbury | 3 |
| Thames Head | 1 |
| Three Rivers | 1 |
| Vale | 1 |
| Water Park | 2 |

