

**Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 498**

Principal Area Boundary Review

UTTLESFORD / BRAINTREE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 498

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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THE RT. HON. PATRICK JENKIN MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

BACKGROUND

1. The parish review report submitted to us on 11 October 1983 by Uttlesford District Council contained a recommendation for a change to the district's boundary with the adjoining district of Braintree, with a view to realigning the boundary between Hempstead Parish (district of Uttlesford) and Steeple Bumpstead Parish (district of Braintree). It also contained a recommendation for a change to the district's boundary with the district of South Cambridgeshire (in the county of Cambridgeshire) with a view to transferring part of Ashdon parish (district of Uttlesford) to the Parish of Bartlow (district of South Cambridgeshire).
2. As paragraph 29 of DOE Circular 121/77 explains, recommendations for changes which affect a district or county boundary have no place in a parish review report. However, we decided to treat these recommendations as requests, under section 48(5) of the Local Government Act 1972, for us to consider making proposals for the changes in question.
3. We therefore considered the requests, as required by that section of the Act, together with the letters which we had received about the boundaries in question. We noted that there were no real objections to the recommended change to the Uttlesford/South Cambridgeshire boundary, but both Essex County Council and the Chairman of Bartlow Parish Meeting had reportedly commented that the matter would or should be resolved during the course of the mandatory county reviews. We ourselves concluded that it would be more appropriate for the local authorities involved to raise the matter in that context, and they were informed accordingly.

DRAFT PROPOSALS

4. The other recommendation was to transfer a farm, known as Little Smith Green Farm, from the parish of Hempstead (Uttlesford) to the parish of Steeple Bumpstead (Braintree). The district/parish boundary currently runs through part of the farm property, and it was stated that the farm was clearly part of the hamlet of Smiths Green in Steeple Bumpstead. There was no objection in principle to the suggested change from any of the local authorities concerned, and the owner of the farm when the suggestion was first made was said to be in favour of it. The subsequent owner of the farm, however, sent us a letter of objection; he expressed satisfaction with the services provided by Uttlesford District Council and stressed his personal ties with the town of Saffron Walden (in the district of Uttlesford). We sympathised with the new owner's feelings in the matter, but were in no doubt that the boundary change would be in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore decided to issue draft proposals based on the realignment suggested by Uttlesford District Council, and including a minor technical adjustment to make the proposed new boundary more easily identifiable.

5. The draft proposals were announced on 7 January 1985, in a letter to the two District Councils concerned. Copies of the letter were sent to Essex County Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, the parish councils concerned, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned, the headquarters of the main political parties, the local Health Authority, the Anglian Water Authority, the Eastern Regional Office of the Department of the Environment, local newspapers circulating in the area, local radio and television stations serving the area, and the local government press. Copies of the draft proposals were deposited for inspection at the main offices of the addressees of our letter. Comments were invited by 4 March 1985.

RESPONSE TO DRAFT PROPOSALS

6. In response to our draft proposals we received letters from three sources. Uttlesford District Council and Steeple Bumpstead Parish Council expressed support

and Essex County Council stated they had no comments to make. Braintree District Council did not add to their earlier comments on the proposed change, which were to the effect that they had no objections.

FINAL PROPOSALS

7. We have reassessed our draft proposals in the light of the representations received. We have noted that the occupier of the property in question has not made any further representations, and that the draft proposals have the support of all the local authorities who had responded to our invitation to comment. We have therefore decided to confirm our draft proposals as our final proposals. Details of our proposals are set out in Schedules 1-3 of this report: Schedule 1 specifies the proposed changes in local authority areas and Schedules 2 and 3 the consequential adjustments to the existing district and county electoral arrangements. The proposed boundaries are shown on the large scale map being sent separately to your Department.

PUBLICATION

8. Separate letters, enclosing copies of this report and of the large scale map are being sent to Uttlesford District Council and Braintree District Council asking them to place copies of this report on deposit at their main offices and to put notices to this effect on public notice boards and in the local press. The text of the notices will refer to your power to make an order implementing the proposals, if you think fit, after the expiry of six weeks from the date they are submitted to you; it will suggest that any comments on the proposals should therefore be addressed to you, in writing, preferably within six weeks of the date

of the letter. Copies of this report, which includes a small scale sketch plan, are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter.

L.S.

Signed: G J ELLERTON (Chairman)

J G POWELL (Deputy Chairman)

JOAN ACKNER

TYRRELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

K J L. NEWELL

B SCHOLES

L B GRIMSHAW
Secretary

18 April 1985

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW - FINAL PROPOSALS

DISTRICT OF UTTLESFORD/DISTRICT OF BRAINTREE

NOTE: Where the boundary is described as following a road, railway, river, canal, or similar feature it shall be deemed to follow the centre line of the feature, unless otherwise stated.

SCHEDULE 1

Area A: description of an area of land proposed to be transferred from Hempstead CP in Uttlesford District to Steeple Bumpstead CP in Braintree District.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the point where the existing District boundary crosses the track southeast of Little Smiths Green Farm, thence westwards along said track to its junction with the track leading to the road numbered B 1054, thence northeastwards along the last mentioned track, to said road and in prolongation to the existing District boundary at Nat. Grid reference TL 6681740137 as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm TL 6640 (A), date of publication 1980, thence eastwards and generally southeastwards and southwards along said District boundary to the point of commencement.

Area B: description of an area of land proposed to be transferred from Steeple Bumpstead CP in Braintree District to Hempstead CP in Uttlesford District.

That area bounded by a line commencing at the southeast corner of Area A as described above, thence eastwards along the track to the unnamed road leading southwards from Smith Green Farm, thence southwards along said road to a point due east of Nat. Grid reference TL 6695340046, being a point on the existing District boundary, thence due westwards to said point, thence generally northwards along said District boundary to the point of commencement.

SCHEDULE 2

Revised District electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedule 1.

It is proposed that the District Wards, as defined in the District of Uttlesford (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1975 and the District of Braintree (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1976, shall be altered as described below.

- 1 Area A, as described in Schedule 1, shall be transferred from, The Sampfords Ward of Uttlesford District to the Bumpstead Ward of Braintree District.
- 2 Area B, as described in Schedule 1, shall be transferred from the Bumpstead Ward of Braintree District to, The Sampfords Ward of Uttlesford District.

SCHEDULE 3

Revised County electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedule 1.

It is proposed that the County Electoral Divisions, as defined in the County of Essex (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1981, shall be altered as described below.

- 1 Area A, as described in Schedule 1, shall be transferred from the Thaxted ED of Essex County to the Hedingham ED of Essex County.
- 2 Area B, as described in Schedule 1, shall be transferred from the Hedingham ED of Essex County to the Thaxted ED of Essex County.

Extract From TL 6640 TL 6740

PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW
DISTRICT OF UTTLESFORD/DISTRICT OF BRAINTREE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND
FINAL PROPOSALS



