

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No. 41

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 41

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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To The Rt Hon Roy Jenkins MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the borough of Colchester 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 borough.
2. In accordance with the procedure laid down in section 60(1) and (2) of the 1972 Act, notice was given on 3 June 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to the Colchester Borough Council, copies of which were circulated to the Essex County Council, parish councils in Colchester borough, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned and the headquarters of the main political parties. Copies were also sent to the editors of the 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 interested bodies.
3. The Colchester Borough Council were invited to prepare a draft scheme of representation for our consideration. When 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 also asked 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. On 29 October 1974 the Colchester Borough Council presented their draft scheme of representation. They proposed to divide the area of the district into 28 wards each returning 1 or 3 members to form a council of 60.

/5. In accordance with

5. In accordance with section 7(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972, they had exercised an option for elections by thirds but proposed that only sixteen of the wards should return 3 councillors. In the remaining wards it was necessary to provide for the councillors to retire in rotation.

6. We considered the draft scheme submitted by the Council together with the comments which had been made upon it. We noted that the draft scheme complied with the rules in Schedule 11 to the Local Government Act 1972 and our own guidelines, but we received comments that a small area containing 229 electors, which the Council proposed to transfer from the existing St Mary's ward to the new Castle ward should remain in the new St Mary's ward. We considered that, taking into consideration the future electorates of these wards the area should be restored to St Mary's ward to achieve a better balance of representation and we therefore modified the scheme in this respect. On the advice of Ordnance Survey we proposed two minor realignments of ward boundaries. We formulated our draft proposals accordingly, adopting the names of wards in the urban area proposed by the Council but as no names for the rural area were submitted, adopting the name of the component parish with the largest electorate as the name of the ward.

7. On 29 November we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or had commented on the Council's draft scheme. The Council were asked to make these draft proposals, and the accompanying maps 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 members of the public and interested bodies. We asked that any comments should reach us by 23 January 1975.

RESPONSE TO DRAFT PROPOSALS

8. We received objections to our proposal to transfer the 229 electors from Castle Ward to St Mary's ward and some comments that certain parishes should be re-grouped to form different wards. We also received a request for a revision of the order of retirement so that councillors representing single member wards could retire in groups according to location, and some suggestions offering alternative names to the ones we had chosen for the rural wards.

/LOCAL MEETING 9. In view

LOCAL MEETING

9. In view of these objections 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, you appointed Mr W Liddell Hann as an Assistant Commissioner to hold a local meeting and to report to us.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

10. The Assistant Commissioner visited the areas which were the subject of dispute and held a meeting at the Town Hall, Colchester, on 23 June. A copy of his report to us of the inspection and of the meeting is attached at Schedule 1 to this report. The annexes to the report have not been reproduced.

11. The Assistant Commissioner recommended the adoption of new ward names for certain wards in the rural area and a revised order of retirement but that otherwise the Commission's draft proposals should be confirmed.

12. We reviewed our draft proposals in the light of the comments which we had received and of the Assistant Commissioner's report. We decided to adopt the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations and to modify our draft proposals accordingly.

13. We formulated our final proposals accordingly and details of these proposals are set out in Schedules 2 and 3 to this report and on the attached maps. Schedule 2 gives the names of the wards and the number of councillors to be returned by each. Schedule 3 shows our revised proposals for the order of retirement of councillors in accordance with Section 7(7)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The boundaries of the new wards are defined on the maps attached.

PUBLICATION

14. In accordance with Section 60(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 a copy of this report and a copy of the maps are being sent to the Colchester Borough Council and will be available for public inspection at the Council's offices at Colchester Essex. Copies of this report, without maps, are being sent to those who received the consultation letter and to those who make comments. A detailed description of the boundaries of the proposed wards as defined on the maps is

/set out in

set out in Schedule 4 to this report.

LS

Signed

EDMUND COMPTON (CHAIRMAN)

JOHN M RANKIN (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN)

DIANA ALBEMARLE

T C BENFIELD

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

ANDREW WHEATLEY

F B YOUNG

DAVID R SMITH (Secretary)

31 July 1975

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND.

REPORT OF A MEETING

to inquire into

THE FUTURE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS

for

THE BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER.

3rd July, 1975.

W. Liddell Hann,
Assistant Commissioner,
172, Huntingdon Road,
CAMBRIDGE. CB3 0LB.

To: THE SECRETARY,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND.

REVIEW OF ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE
BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER.

Pursuant to my appointment by the Secretary of State for the Home Office as Assistant Commissioner to hold a local inquiry or carry out any consultation or investigation with respect to the review by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England of the electoral arrangements for the Borough of Colchester, I conducted a local meeting at the Town Hall, Colchester, Essex, on Monday, the 23rd June 1975.

Attendance.

A list of the persons who attended the meeting and showing the capacity in which they did so, is attached. (Appendix 1.)

Preliminaries.

I opened the proceedings by introducing myself, submitting my personal appointment as Assistant Commissioner, explaining briefly the purpose of the meeting and the points to be discussed, and emphasised that to facilitate the expression and discussion of views on the Draft Scheme I intended to proceed as informally as possible.

Mr. A. E. Manning, Electoral and Registration Officer for the Colchester Borough Council, proved the publication of the statutory notices of the meeting.

Commission's Draft Proposals.

The Commission's Draft Proposals are set out in Appendix

II attached. These adopted, with two very small modifications, the draft Scheme submitted by the Colchester District Council. One modification related to a small area containing 229 electors, which the Council had transferred from the existing St. Mary's Ward to Castle Ward. The Commission restored this to St. Mary's Ward in order to achieve better representation. Slight re-alignments to the ward boundaries between Lexden and Castle Wards and between Mile End and St. Anne's Wards were made at the suggestion of Ordnance Survey.

Written Comments on Draft Proposals.

The Commission's Draft Proposals were advertised locally and comments invited. Written comments were received and copies of these are attached in Appendix III. Essex County Council stated that they had no comments to make (Comment H). The comments can be summarised as follows:-

Castle Ward and St. Mary's Ward.

Colchester Borough Council objected to the Commission's proposal to transfer 229 electors from Castle Ward to St. Mary's Ward. They also commented about the order of retirement of councillors and the choice of names for the wards (Comment A).

Councillor S. Wills wrote on behalf of himself and the other two councillors for Castle Ward supporting the Commission's proposals (Comment G).

Fordham, The Horkesleys and Great Tey Wards.

Wormingford Parish Council asked to be joined with the parishes of Little Horkesley and Mount Bures rather than with Fordham and Aldham (Comment B). If the electorate of these Wards be considered too small to form a district ward, they suggested that Fordham Parish should be added to their group and that Aldham Parish should join with the Parishes of Chappel, Wakes Colne and Great Tey. Wormingford Parish Council suggested that their proposed Ward should be named "Stour-side" or some similar name.

Aldham Parish Council asked to be joined with Great Tey, Chappel and Wakes Colne, thus supporting the proposal of Wormingford Parish Council. (Comment C).

Names of Wards.

Langham Parish Council suggested that the proposed Ward of Boxted should be named "Boxted and Langham", (Comment D).

Birch Parish Council suggested that the Ward consisting of the Parishes of Birch, Layer Breton, Layer Marney and Messing-cum-Inworth should be named "Birch-Messing" Ward. (Comment E).

East Mersea Parish Council asked that the Ward consisting of the Parishes of Abberton, Langenhoe, East Mersea and Fingringhoe should be named "Pyefleet". (Comment F).

ISSUES CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING.

(a) Whether the boundary between Castle Ward and St. Mary's Ward shall be re-aligned.

Before the meeting I was handed a letter from Mr. W. H. F. Spyvee of 28, Cambridge Road, Colchester, complaining that I would be hearing representations on the boundaries of St. Mary's Ward without anyone, except the objectors, being aware of the changes proposed and requesting me to defer the hearing on all the proposed boundary changes until those directly affected were informed and their views actively sought. This letter is attached (Appendix IV; item 1). I read the letter to the meeting but it evoked no response and no one present at the time knew Mr. Spyvee.

Mr. J. Allen, Town Clerk, Colchester Borough Council stated that the Council had decided that this small area containing 229 electors should be transferred from St. Mary's Ward to Castle Ward in order to improve the boundary between the two Wards. The area was self-contained; it did not clearly belong to either Ward and the Borough Council had no strong feelings in the matter.

Councillor Russell appeared on behalf of the Councillors representing Castle Ward, none of whom was able to attend, and produced a letter so authorising him. (Appendix IV; item 2). He argued persuasively in favour of the area remaining in St. Mary's Ward and handed in a type-written statement showing new dwellings planned for Castle Ward, which would

have the effect of increasing the population by approximately 1000 during the next five years. (Appendix IV; item 3). This statement was challenged by the Town Clerk and Mr. Russell subsequently reduced his estimated ~~rate~~ of population growth to 500. However the argument was not pursued as it was agreed by all the interested persons present that within the next five years the number of electors in Castle Ward would increase more rapidly than St. Mary's Ward and consequently the difference between the number of electors in the two Wards would widen. Mr. Russell also handed me a copy of the letter (Appendix IV; item 4), referred to in the first paragraph of the letter from Councillor Wills to the Commission dated 22nd January 1975 (Appendix III; Comment G).

No one was present from St. Mary's Ward and I was told that the Councillors representing that Ward had expressed no feelings one way or the other.

Mr. Peter Dodson, the Secretary/Agent for the Colchester Conservative Association and Mr. W. P. Alston, the Secretary/Agent of the Colchester Constituency Labour Party, stated that their Parties had no particular preference and they assured me that the electors themselves were neutral. I obtained the general impression that geographically the area was more closely allied to St Mary's Ward than Castle Ward and inspection of the site after the meeting confirmed this. The area is a self-contained estate of high class post war houses. It has access on foot only to Hospital Lane and Papillon Road which are in Castle Ward. Otherwise vehicular access is from Lexden Road along either Oaks Drive (opposite the Grammar School), or Sussex Road.

I RECOMMEND that the area in question should remain in St. Mary's Ward as proposed by the Commission for the following reasons:-

1. It is quite clear that within the next five years the number of electors in Castle Ward will increase at a faster rate than St. Mary's Ward and if the 229 electors were to be transferred to Castle Ward now the Ward would be the larger of the two and the difference between them would rapidly

become greater.

2. The area is a self-contained unit and could easily be added to either Ward but I am of the opinion, particularly after inspecting the site, that the area has slightly more affinity to St. Mary's Ward.

3. The area has been in St. Mary's Ward for many years and there appears to be no strong ground for making a change.

(b) Whether the Parishes of Great Horkesley, Little Horkesley, Wormingford, Fordham, Aldham, Great Tey, Chappel, Wakes Colne and Mount Bures should be grouped differently.

Mr. Allen, Chief Executive, Colchester District Council, explained briefly the reasons which had led the District Council to decide on the proposed groupings. They had considered various groupings but having regard to the statutory requirement that the ratio of the number of local government electors to the number of councillors to be elected shall be, as nearly as may be, the same in every ward of the district, they had come to the conclusion that the groupings contained in the Draft Proposals constituted the best possible arrangement. Mr. Allen handed me a table showing the electorate figures as at 10th October 1974 and this is attached. (Appendix IV; item 5).

Views of the Parishes.

Wormingford. Lt. Colonel R. H. Lucas, Chairman of Wormingford Parish Council, expressed the views of the Parish Council that they should be linked with Little Horkesley. Mount Bures wished to remain with Wakes Colne and Chappel, so Wormingford and Little Horkesley would have to be grouped with Fordham in order to make a large enough Ward. Although the electorate would be small the population of Wormingford was likely to increase because of the number of children and young families at present residing in the village. So far as Education was concerned, they had an old primary school which was shortly to be closed when a new school was opened at Great Horkesley. At present children at Little Horkesley came to Wormingford. Eventually they would all attend the

new school at Great Horkesley. Eccliaastically the Parish was linked with Mount Bures and they shared the same Vicar. Elderly people from Mount Bures shared the club at Wormingford. The British Legion looked after members from Fordham as there was no branch in that Parish. Geographically Wormingford was on the side of the river Stour as opposed to Aldham which was on the Colne. There was no connection whatever between the Parishes of Wormingford and Aldham.

Little Horkesley. Major General P. H. de Havilland, Chairman of Little Horkesley Parish Council, spoke on behalf of Little Horkesley. He stated that the Parish would like to be separated from Great Horkesley. The fact that the two Parishes had the same name was misleading. They did not think in the same way and Great Horkesley did not understand their problems. It was becoming increasingly apparent that Little Horkesley had more in common with Wormingford. Their experience in the past of being warded with Great Horkesley had not been a happy one. Before re-organisation Great and Little Horkesley were represented on the District Council by two Councillors and there had been a gentleman's agreement that one Councillor should come from each Parish but this had not worked out in practice. Little Horkesley accordingly requested that they might be joined with Wormingford. The electors of the Parish had been informed and no adverse comments had been received, and the request had the support of the Parish meeting. Because of the great difference in size the Parish was really swamped by Great Horkesley, whereas a real partnership existed between Little Horkesley and Wormingford. General de Havilland then handed in an exchange of letters between himself and the Chairman of Great Horkesley Parish Council as an illustration of the points which he had been making.

Mr. Nigel Smith, a member of the Parish Council, confirmed that General de Havilland had voiced the unanimous views of the Parish Meeting.

Mount Bures. Mr. P.A. Evans, Chairman of the Parish Council, read a statement, a copy of which he handed to me (Appendix IV; item 6), explaining how Mount Bures had come to be grouped

with Great Tey, Chappel and Wakes Colne and why they would like to remain in the group. He concluded by stating that the parish Council supported the Draft Proposals.

Aldham. Mr. K.A. Holme, Chairman of the Parish Council, agreed with Colonel Lucas that Wormingford and Aldham have little in common and that the Parish would prefer to be grouped with Great Tey and Chappel.

Great Tey. Councillor R.W. Browning, who resides in Great Tey and is the Councillor for the Parishes of Great Tey, Chappel, Wakes Colne and Mount Bures, read a statement, a copy of which was handed to me (Appendix IV; item 7). He spoke strongly in favour of the Draft Proposals and against any suggested re-grouping. He would not object to the addition of another Parish to the group but pointed out that this would upset the balance when compared to other groups.

Mr. F. S. Thornton, Chairman of Great Tey Parish Council, stated that the Parish would welcome Aldham into their group.

Great Horkesley. Mrs. W. Knighton spoke as Vice-Chairman of Great Horkesley Parish Council and also as the present Councillor representing Great and Little Horkesley. Whilst she could appreciate the view expressed by General de Havilland, she could not agree that the two Parishes, which had always been linked together, should now be separated. In her view, the villages had recently come closer together and one had to think both of the young people and the future. She did not agree that Great Horkesley was in any way urban. Two new estates had recently been erected on the Southern boundary of the Parish but there was a clear division between them and the Colchester Borough boundary and the village was still predominantly rural in character. The Church Authorities were considering joining the two Parishes ecclesiastically--(at this point General de Havilland interrupted to state quite categorically that the churches cannot be joined). Essex County Council had one of their homes for the elderly, called Westwood Park, in Little Horkesley and this accounted for 76 out of the total electorate of Little Horkesley of 223 and the residents of this Home were very much involved with

events in Great Horkesley. She hoped very much that there would be no alterations made to the Draft Proposals.

Mr. Williamson, Clerk of Great Horkesley Parish Council, confirmed and agreed with all that Mrs. Knighton had said. He handed me a copy of a letter dated the 29th August 1974 which he had sent to the Town Clerk, Colchester and the Commission. The two Parishes shared the same shops and services. The 'bus service was linked between the two villages. There was further linkage with regard to the school. There was no question of being absorbed into the Borough of Colchester. The Parish Meeting had unanimously agreed that the two Parishes should remain together and they supported the Draft Proposals.

Colonel Lucas stated that he disagreed with what Mr. Williamson had said.

Fordham. As no representative of the Parish was present, Colonel Lucas stated that he had spoken to Mr. J.F. Forrest of Kenmore, Fordham, Chairman of the Parish Council. Mr. Forrest had said that Fordham Parish Council were quite happy to remain with the Parishes in the existing Ward and as proposed by the Commission but they would be equally happy to be in a ward comprising Little Horkesley, Wormingford and Fordham.

Wakes Colne and Chappel. Although there were no representatives of these two Parishes present at the meeting, it seemed to be generally agreed that the Parishes were as inseparable as Great and Little Horkesley and must be together in the same Ward. A copy of an undated letter from the Clerk of Wakes Colne Parish Council addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Colchester Borough Council was handed in by Councillor Browning (Appendix IV; item 8). The letter confirmed that Wakes Colne Parish Council supported the Draft Proposals and would object most strongly to any proposal to join Wormingford.

Other views. Mr. W. P. Alston, the Secretary/Agent for the Colchester Constituency Labour Party enquired whether the electors had been asked for their views and how far those who had spoken at the meeting represented the electors in their particular Parishes. He expressed himself in favour of the

Draft Proposals.

Mr. P. Dodson, the Secretary/Agent for the Colchester Conservative Association also supported the Draft Proposals.

Mr. G.S.E. Penrose, the Councillor representing the existing Aldham, Fordham and Wormingford Ward confirmed that from his knowledge, the views of the three Parishes were as had already been expressed.

Summary of Views.

Although it seemed at the time difficult to reconcile the conflict of views expressed there was a considerable consensus of opinion in favour of the Draft Proposals. The only agreed support for any alternative proposals emanated from (1) the desire of Little Horkesley and Wormingford to join with Fordham and (2) the wish of Aldham to join with Great Tey, Chappel, Wakes Colne and Mount Bures. From this the following groupings could emerge:-

Great Horkesley	<u>1243.</u>	
Little Horkesley	223.	
Wormingford	288.	
Fordham	556.	
Mount Bures	<u>135.</u>	(A reluctant partner).
	<u>1202.</u>	
Wakes Colne	343.	
Chappel	359.	
Great Tey	512.	
Aldham	<u>425.</u>	
	<u>1639.</u>	

This would result in two Wards with an electorate well below the average for the District and one considerably above. Geographically an inspection of the district and a study of the 1.50,000 Ordnance Map shows that Aldham, Chappel and Great Tey are South of the river Colne and A.604 and clearly go together. My inspection of the area confirmed that Wakes Colne and Chappel are closely connected. Wormingford, Little Horkesley and Great Horkesley lie together South of the river Stour and form another group. A case can be made out for Mount Bures and Fordham going either way. Accordingly I have much sympathy with the views expressed by Aldham, Little Horkesley and Wormingford but to endeavour to re-group the

Parishes so as to give effect to them would result in a complete imbalance of electoral Wards. I have therefore come to the conclusion that the only practical grouping of Parishes, so as to produce Wards of approximately equal numbers of electors, is that contained in the Draft Proposals. Accordingly

I RECOMMEND that Little Horkesley and Great Horkesley should not be separated and other Parishes should not be re-grouped to form new district Wards but that the Commission's Draft Proposals should be confirmed.

(c) Whether the names of Birch, Boxted, Eight Ash Green, Fingringhoe, Layer-de-la-Haye and The Horkesleys should be changed.

Parishes are very jealous about the preservation of their names. There appeared to be two misapprehensions held by some of the representatives at the meeting which I did my best to dispel. The first was that according to Paragraph 7 (c) of the Commission's letter of the 14th May 1975, the names of the Parishes were to be changed. I assured the Parish representatives that any change referred only to the name of the electoral Ward and not to the name of the Parish. The Commission, when no better suggestion was forthcoming, usually proposed the name of the component Parish with the largest electorate and the fact that a Parish was grouped with others for electoral purposes did not mean that the Parish would lose either its name or identity. The other misapprehension was that the Commission insisted on a single name for each Ward and would not agree to a combination of names. I expressed my doubts about this but at the same time indicated that long cumbersome names were impracticable and were to be avoided. A discussion then followed with the following unanimous requests:-

Birch. Mr. T. Wayman, Chairman of Birch Parish Council, said that it had been agreed that the name should be "Birch-Messing" Ward.

Mrs. Dennis of Messing expressed agreement.

Boxted. Mr. Barclay, Chairman of Boxted Parish Council, asked that the name be "Boxted and Langham".

Mr. J. Maturin-Baird, Vice Chairman of Langham Parish Council, agreed.

Eight Ash Green. Mrs. V. Millbank, a member of Eight Ash Green Parish Council, stated that it was the wish of Eight Ash Green Parish Council that the Ward should be named "Copford and Eight Ash Green".

Fingringhoe. Mr. Charles Taylor, Chairman of Fingringhoe Parish Council, said that there was complete agreement among the Parishes in the Ward that it should be named "Pyefleet".

Layer-de-la-Haye. Mr. R. Faulds, Chairman of Layer-de-la-Haye Parish Council, said that there had recently been an amalgamation of three Parish Councils namely Peldon, Great and Little Wigborough, and Salcott-cum-Virley and the new Parish Council was known as "Winstred". It had been agreed between the new Parish Council and Layer-de-la-Haye that the name of the new Ward should be "Winstree".

The Horkesleys. Mrs. W. Knighton asked if the name for Great and Little Horkesley might remain as such and she was supported by the representatives of the Parishes. They had previously been under the impression that the Commission would insist on the dropping of the prefixes "Great and Little".

Great Tey. Mr. Browning, and the representatives of Great Tey and Mount Bures, asked for the full title of Chappel, Great Tey, Mount Bures and Wakes Colne to be preserved. I expressed doubts about this and put forward the view that unless a shorter name could be suggested the Ward would probably bear the name of "Great Tey".

Little Horkesley and Wormingford. General de Havilland and Colonel Stokes asked that if their plea for re-grouping proved successful, the new Ward, comprising Little Horkesley, Fordham, Mount Bures and Wormingford should be known as "The Stour" Ward. If unsuccessful, Colonel Stokes asked that time be allowed in order to find a name for Aldham, Fordham and Wormingford, if that name be considered too lengthy.

I consider that the names suggested by the Parishes should be adopted wherever possible, provided that they are not too long. Accordingly

I RECOMMEND that the following names should be adopted:-

<u>Draft Proposals Name.</u>	<u>Name.</u>
Birch	Birch-Messing
Boxted	Boxted and Langham
Eight Ash Green	Copford and Eight Ash Green
Fingringhoe	Pyefleet
Layer-de-la-Haye	Winstree
The Horkesleys	Great and Little Horkesley

(d) Whether the order of retirement of councillors proposed by the Commission should be changed.

Mr. Allen, Chief Executive, Colchester District Council, stated that the Council had agreed to group single member Wards into four groups on a geographical basis with one member in each group retiring every electoral year. If this were agreed, the Order of Retirement Table (Table IV) would be amended so as to agree with Table V attached (Appendix V) as proposed by the District Council. I explained that there was no objection in principle to this suggestion.

The representatives at the meeting were quite happy about this proposal and no view to the contrary was expressed.

Accordingly

I RECOMMEND that the order of retirement table, Table IV, be amended so as to agree with Table V submitted by the District Council.

Conclusion of Meeting.

After giving an opportunity for any other comments or observations to be made I closed the meeting and in concluding this Report I should like to thank the ladies and gentlemen who attended the meeting for the courteous and informative way in which they made their observations and

the Town Clerk and Chief Executive of the Borough Council and his staff for the assistance they gave to me and the arrangements they made for the meeting.

Whiddell Hann.

172, Huntingdon Road,
CAMBRIDGE.
CB3 0LB.
3rd July 1975.

Assistant Commissioner,
Local Government Boundary
Commission for England.

BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND
NUMBERS OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
BERECHURCH	3
BIRCH-MESSING	1
BOXTED AND LANGHAM	1
CASTLE	3
COPFORD AND EIGHT ASH GREEN	1
DEDHAM	1
EAST DONYPOND	1
FORDHAM	1
GREAT AND LITTLE HORKESELEY	1
GREAT TEY	1
HARBOUR	3
LEXDEN	3
MARKS TEY	1
MILE END	3
NEW TOWN	3
PRETTYGATE	3
PYEFLEET	1
ST ANDREW'S	3
ST ANNE'S	3
ST JOHN'S	3
ST MARY'S	3
SHRUB END	3
STANWAY	3
TIPTREE	3
WEST BERGHOLT	1
WEST MERSEA	3
WINSTREE	1
WIVENHOE	3

BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER

ORDER OF RETIREMENT OF COUNCILLORS

	NO. OF COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING WARD	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR
Berechurch	3	1	1	1
Birch-Messing	1	1PE	-	-
Boxted and Langham	1	1PE	-	-
Castle	3	1	1	1
Copford and Eight Ash Green	1	-	1PE	-
Dedham	1	-	-	1PE
East Donyland	1	-	-	1PE
Fordham	1	-	-	1PE
Great and Little Horkesley	1	-	1PE	-
Great Tey	1	-	1PE	-
Harbour	3	1	1	1
Lexden	3	1	1	1
Marks Tey	1	-	-	1PE
Mile End	3	1	1	1
New Town	3	1	1	1
Prettygate	3	1	1	1
Pyefleet	1	-	1PE	-
St Andrew's	3	1	1	1
St Anne's	3	1	1	1
St John's	3	1	1	1
St Mary's	3	1	1	1
Shrub End	3	1	1	1
Stanway	3	1	1PE	1
Tiptree	3	1	1PE	1
West Bergholt	1	1PE	-	-
West Mersea	3	1	1PE	1
Winstree	1	1PE	-	-
Wivenhoe	3	1	1	1
		20	20	20

PE = Parish Elections for any parishes within the ward which have parish councils

BOROUGH OF COLCHESTER: DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WARD BOUNDARIES

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

MILE END WARD

Commencing at a point where the London - Norwich Railway meets Baker's Lane, thence northeastwards along said lane to the path that leads from Baker's Lane to the road known as Braiswick, thence northwestwards along said path and the track being a continuation of the path to said Braiswick, thence northwestwards along said road to the eastern boundary of West Burgholt CP, thence northeastwards and following said CP boundary, the southern boundary of Great Horkesley CP, the southern boundary of Bosted CP and the southern boundary of Langham CP to the eastern boundary of District, thence southwestwards and following said boundary to the path that leads to Brinkley Lane, thence southwestwards along said path, crossing Severalls Lane, and continuing along Brinkley Lane to the path that leads to High Woods, thence southwestwards along said path to the path that leads to Myland Hall Farm, thence southeastwards and southwestwards along said path and the access road to Myland Hall Farm to Grid Reference TM 0060627363 being the junction of said access road and the path that passes east of Myland Cottage, thence southwestwards along said path to the unnamed road and track that leads to Turners' Road, thence southwards and southwestwards along said unnamed road to the stream that leads from High Woods to the London - Norwich Railway, thence southeastwards along said stream and in continuation along the track that leads to Broadlands Way, to the fence being a continuation eastwards of the rear boundaries of Nos 2-24 Havering Close, thence westwards along said fence and said rear boundaries and in continuation along the path that leads to Cowdray Avenue, to the Wivenhoe Branch Railway, thence northwestwards along said railway and the London to Norwich railway to the point of commencement.

ST JOHN'S WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Mile End Ward meets the London - Norwich Railway, thence northwestwards and following said eastern boundary to the eastern boundary of the District, thence southeastwards and following said district boundary to the London - Norwich Railway, thence southwestwards along said railway to the point of commencement.

ST ANNE'S WARD

Commencing at a point where Harwich Road meets St Andrew's Avenue, thence northwestwards along said Avenue and Cowdray Avenue to the Wivenhoe Branch Railway, thence northwestwards along said railway to the southern boundary of Mile End Ward thence eastwards along said boundary and northeastwards along the southern boundary of St John's Ward to the eastern boundary of the District, thence southeastwards and following said district boundary to Bromley Road, thence southwestwards and following said road and Harwich Road to the point of commencement.

CASTLE WARD

Commencing at a point where Hospital Lane meets Crouch Street; thence northwards to Manor Road thence northwestwards to and along the western boundaries of Nos 88 Manor Road, 44 Papillon Road, crossing said road and continuing northwards along the western boundary of No 55 Papillon Road and the rear boundaries of Nos 2 to 36 St Alban's Road; thence westwards along the northern boundary of Manor Gardens to the eastern boundary of the properties in Oaks Drive; thence northwards along said eastern boundary and north eastwards to the western boundary of the allotment gardens; thence northwards along said western boundary and in prolongation thereof to the footpath leading from Sussex Road to the Piggery, thence eastwards along said path to the path that runs to the west of the North East Essex Technical College & School of Art to Sheepen Road, thence northwestwards along said path to said road, thence northwestwards along said road to Colne Bank Avenue, thence southwestwards along said avenue to Water Lane, thence northwestwards along said lane, The Chase Way and in continuation along the path passing Lexden Lodge Farm, crossing Lexden Dyke to Baker's Lane, thence northeastwards along said lane to the

southern boundary of Mile End Ward, thence eastwards along said boundary to the western boundary of St Anne's Ward, thence southeastwards along said boundary and in continuation southeastwards and southwestwards along the St Botolph's Station railway to its end, thence northwards along said end and the western boundary of the Britannia Engineering Works to the access to said works, thence westwards along said access to the road known as St Botolph's Corner, thence northwestwards along said road to Mersea Road, thence southwards along said road to Napier Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Flagstaff Road, thence northwards along said road to the road and path known as Artillery Barracks Folley, thence southwestwards along said road and path to Butt Road, thence northeastwards along said road to Crouch Street, thence westwards along said street to the point of commencement.

LEXDEN WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Stanway CP meets the London - Norwich Railway, thence northeastwards along said railway to the western boundary of Castle Ward, thence southwestwards and following said ward boundary to Lexden Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Park Road, thence southwestwards and northwestwards along said road, crossing Norman Way and continuing along the path that leads to Prettygate Road, to Prettygate Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Beech Hill, thence southwestwards along said hill to Church Lane, thence southwestwards along said lane to Heath Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Straight Road, thence southeastwards along said road to the path which runs between Nos 151-153 Straight Road that leads to Gryme's Dyke, thence southwestwards along said path and in prolongation thereof to the eastern boundary of Stanway CP thence northwestwards along said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

PRETTYGATE WARD

Commencing at a point where the southern boundary of Lexden Ward meets the eastern boundary of Stanway CP, thence northeastwards and following said ward boundary to the path that runs to the east of Altnaccalgach House leading to Norman Way, thence southwestwards along said path and in prolongation thereof to the rear boundaries of Nos 18-2 Norman Way, thence southwards and following said boundaries and in prolongation thereof to Shrub End Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Straight Road thence northwestwards along said road to Dugard Avenue, thence southwestwards along said avenue to a point opposite the eastern boundary of No 1a Dugard Avenue, thence southeastwards along boundary and southwestwards along the rear boundaries of Nos 1a-73 Dugard Avenue and in prolongation thereof to the eastern boundary of Stanway CP, thence northwestwards along said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

ST MARY'S WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Prettygate Ward meets Boadicca Way, thence northeastwards and following said ward boundary to the southern boundary of Lexden Ward, thence northeastwards and following said boundary and southern boundary of Castle Ward to Circular Road East, thence southeastwards along said road and Berechurch Road to Circular South Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Ypres Road, thence southwestwards along said road to a point opposite the northern boundary of Parcel No 6143 on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan TL 98/9923 Edition of 1970 thence eastwards to and southwestwards along the western boundary of said parcel to Berechurch Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the path that leads to Reed Hall Avenue South, thence northwestwards along said path and said Avenue to Layer Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Boadicca Way thence northwestwards along said way to the point of Commencement.

NEW TOWN WARD

Commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of St Mary's Ward meets the southern boundary of Castle Ward, thence southeastwards and following said southern boundary to the path that leads to Spurgeon Street, thence southeastwards along said path to the unnamed road between Spurgeon Street and Hythe Hill, thence southwards along said unnamed road to Hythe Hill, thence westwards along said Hill to Part Lane, thence southeastwards along said lane to Recreation Road, thence southwestwards along said road to Old Heath Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Bourne Road, thence southwestwards and following said road to Mersea Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Berechurch Road, thence southwestwards along said road to the eastern boundary of St Mary's Ward, thence northwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.

ST ANDREW'S WARD

Commencing at a point where the southern boundary of St Anne's Ward meets St Andrew's Avenue, thence northeastwards and following said ward boundary to the eastern boundary of the District, thence southeastwards and following said District boundary and western boundary of Wivenhoe CP to Colchester Road, thence northwestwards along said road to Elmstead Road, thence westwards along said road and Clingoe Hill to a point opposite the eastern boundary of Parcel No 5100 on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan TM 02/0324 Edition of 1970, thence southwards to, along, and following said boundary and the eastern boundary of Parcel Nos 5100 and 3500 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan TM 02/0323 Edition of 1970 to the unnamed stream that flows into the River Colne, thence southwestwards along said stream to the Wivenhoe Branch Railway, thence northwestwards along said railway to Salary Brook, thence northwestwards and following said brook to Elmstead Road, thence northwestwards along said road and St Andrew's Avenue to the point of commencement.

HARBOUR WARD

Commencing at a point where the northern boundary of East Donyland CP meets Birch Brook, thence northwestwards along said brook to Mersea Road, thence northeastwards along said road to the southern boundary of New Town Ward, thence northeastwards and following said boundary to the southern boundary of Castle Ward, thence northeastwards along said boundary and northwestwards along the eastern boundary of said ward to the western boundary of St Anne's Ward, thence southeastwards and following said boundary the western boundary of St Andrew's Ward and the western boundary of Wivenhoe CP, to the northern boundary of East Donyland CP, thence northwestwards and following said boundary to Rowhedge Road, thence northwestwards along said road to a point opposite the eastern boundary of parcel No 4200 on OS 1:2500 plan TM 02/0322 edition of 1970, thence southwards to and along said boundary to the track that leads to Birch Brook, thence southwestwards and following said track to the northern boundary of East Donyland CP, thence westwards and following said boundary to the point of commencement.

BERECHURCH WARD

Commencing at a point where the northern boundary of Layer-de-la-Haye CP meets Bounstead Road, thence northwards and following said road and Berechurch Road to the southern boundary of St Mary's Ward, thence eastwards along said boundary and northeastwards along the eastern boundary of said ward to the southern boundary of New Town Ward, thence northeastwards and following said boundary to the western boundary of Harbour Ward, thence southeastwards and following said boundary to the western boundary of East Donyland CP thence southwestwards and following said boundary to the northern boundary of Layer-de-la-Haye CP, thence northwestwards and following said boundary to the point of commencement.

SHRUBEND WARD

Commencing at a point where the western boundary of Berechurch Ward meets the northern boundary of Layer-de-la-Haye CP, thence westwards and following said CP boundary to the eastern boundary of Stanway CP, thence northwards and following said CP boundary to the southern boundary of Prettygate Ward, thence northeastwards and following said ward boundary to the southwestern boundary of St Mary's Ward, thence southeastwards and following said ward boundary to the western boundary of Berechurch Ward, thence southwestwards and following said ward boundary to the point of commencement.

WEST MERSEA WARD

The parish of West Mersea.

WIVENHOE WARD

The parish of Wivenhoe and that area bounded by the line commencing at a point on the southern boundary of St Andrews Ward where the eastern boundary of Parcel No 3500 on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan TM 02/0323 meets the northern boundary of Wivenhoe CP, thence northwards and eastwards along said ward boundary to the northern boundary of Wivenhoe CP, thence southwestwards along said CP boundary to the point of commencement.

DEDHAM WARD

The parish of Dedham.

BOXTED AND LANGHAM WARD

The parishes of Boxted and Langham.

GREAT AND LITTLE HORQUESLEY WARD

The parishes of Great Horkesley and Little Horkesley.

WEST BERGHOLT WARD

The parish of West Bergholt and that area bonded by the line commencing at a point where the eastern boundary of Stanway CP meets the northern boundary of Lexden Ward, thence northwestwards along said CP boundary, eastern boundary of Eight Ash Green CP and southern boundary of West Bergholt CP to the western boundary of Mile End Ward, thence southeastwards along said ward boundary and southwestwards along the northern boundary of Lexden Ward to the point of commencement.

FORDHAM WARD

The parishes of Aldham, Fordham and Wormingford.

GREAT TEY WARD

The parishes of Chappel, Great Tey, Mount Bures and Wakes Colne.

MARKS TEY WARD

The parish of Marks Tey.

COPFORD AND EIGHT ASH GREEN WARD

The parishes of Copford and Eight Ash Green.

STANWAY WARD

The parish of Stanway.

BIRCH -MESSING WARD

The parishes of Birch, Layer Breton, Layer Marney and Messing-cum-Inworth.

WINSTEREE WARD

The parishes of Great and Little Wigborough, Layer-de-la-Haye, Peldon, Sulcott, and Virley.

TIPTREE WARD

The parish of Tiptree.

PYRFLEET WARD

The parishes of Abberton, Langenhoe, East Mersea and Fingringhoe.

EAST DONYLAND WARD

The parish of East Donyland and that area bounded by the line commencing at a point on the southern boundary of Harbour Ward where the northern

boundary of East Donyland CP meets the track from Battleswick Farm, thence northwestwards and southeastwards along said southern ward boundary to the northern boundary of East Donyland CP, thence southwestwards along said boundary to the point of commencement.