

Local Government
Boundary Commission
For England
Report No.134

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 134

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 REVISED ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE DISTRICT
OF EAST HAMPSHIRE IN THE COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE

1. We, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, having carried out our initial review of the electoral arrangements for the district of East Hampshire in accordance with the requirements of section 63 of, and of 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 3 June 1974 that we were to undertake this review. This was incorporated in a consultation letter addressed to the East Hampshire District Council, copies of which were circulated to the Hampshire County Council, Parish Councils and Parish Meetings in the District, the Member of Parliament for the constituency concerned 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. East Hampshire 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) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council had exercised an option for a system of whole council elections.
5. On 28 October 1974 the District Council presented their draft scheme of representation. The Council proposed to divide the area into 31 wards each returning 1, 2 or 3 councillors to form a council of 42 members.
6. Following the publication of the draft scheme we received representations from Petersfield Town Council who objected to the District Council's proposals for the division of the town into 3 district wards returning a total of 5 members. They submitted alternative proposals for three district wards each to return 2 members. From Liss parish council we received a request that the proposed district ward comprising that parish should be represented by three councillors instead of two as the District Council had proposed. A district councillor submitted to us proposals for the division of the parish of Horndean into five single-member wards instead of four as the District Council had proposed. We received also a copy of representations made to the District Council by a local association suggesting that the proposed Alton South West and Beech ward should be divided into two single-member wards.
7. The District Council sent us copies of their correspondence with parish councils and others prior to the submission of the scheme. We noted a number of instances where the District Council had been unable to accept suggestions which had been made and incorporate them in the draft scheme. These included the proposals which had been put to us in relation to Liss, Petersfield and Alton South West and Beech.
8. We studied the draft scheme together with all the comments which had been submitted both to us and to the District Council. On the evidence before us we concluded that the District Council's decisions on the proposals which had been put to them had been appropriate and that we would not be justified in making any

changes. It was not clear whether the District Council had previously considered the proposals which had been made to us in relation to the parish of Horndean. We noted, however, that on the basis of the forecasts provided by the District Council, the electorate of the parish in 5 years time would be insufficient to warrant the allocation of more than 4 councillors and we decided therefore that the alternative proposals for 5 single-member wards should be rejected.

9. We noted that where a proposed district ward would comprise a group of parishes the District Council had suggested that the name of the ward should include the name of each of the constituent parishes. In several instances the result was very cumbersome. We decided to propose that where parishes had been grouped in this way the name of the ward should be that of the parish with the largest electorate.

10. Subject to the changes referred to in paragraph 9 above we decided that the District Council's draft scheme provided a reasonable basis for the future electoral arrangements of the District in compliance with the rules in Schedule 11 to the 1972 Act and our guidelines, and we formulated our draft proposals accordingly.

11. On 25 February 1975 we issued our draft proposals and these were sent to all who had received our consultation letter or who 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 other members of the public and interested bodies. We asked that any comments should reach us by 30 April 1975.

12. From Alton Town Council we received a letter in support of our draft proposals. East Hampshire District Council objected to our proposals to abbreviate the names of some of the proposed wards. They recommended also that the names of three other wards should be modified. Greatham Parish Council supported the District Council's submission that the names of the rural wards should include the names of all the constituent parishes. In a letter received via the District Council Whitehill Parish Council opposed the recommendation of the District Council that the name of the proposed Whitehill Deadwater and Whitehill ward should be modified to read "Whitehill Bordon and Whitehill". Liss Parish Council reiterated their request for an additional district councillor to represent the parish. From a local residents' association we received a letter reiterating a proposal which they had made to the District Council that the proposed Grayshott ward should be represented by 2 district councillors. Petersfield Town Council pressed us to reconsider their proposals for the division of the town into three wards each returning two members. Likewise, the district councillor who had submitted alternative proposals for the parish of Horndean asked that we should reconsider the matter. In a letter received via the District Council, a local councillor again raised the proposal that the proposed Alton South-West and Beech ward should be divided into two single-member wards. Finally we received a letter from a local political association reiterating a number of proposals which they had made earlier to the District Council. So far as these proposals were relevant to the present review, they included suggestions that extra members should be allocated to the proposed Four Marks, Grayshott, Headley and Liss wards and to one of the proposed wards in Petersfield. The association proposed also that Alton should be re-warded to receive greater equality of representation, that the proposed Bramshott ward should be re-named "Bramshott and Liphook", that the parish of Buriton should be warded with Petersfield and that the parish of Bramshott should be divided into wards, although it was not clear to us whether this was for district electoral purposes or for parish electoral purposes only.

13. In view of these comments, we decided 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 Thomas Foord as an Assistant Commissioner to hold a local meeting and to report to us.

14. In calling the meeting we asked that the local political association which had suggested the warding of Bramshott and the re-warding of Alton should clarify and work out their proposals in detail and send them to the District Council and to the parish councils concerned not less than 14 days before the meeting. We asked also that the District Council should review their forecasts of the electorate of the proposed wards in five years time. These had been prepared some months before and, in view of the demands for extra councillors for some of the wards, we were anxious to ascertain whether they could still be regarded as valid.

15. The Assistant Commissioner held a meeting at Petersfield on 30 September 1975. A copy (without enclosures) of his report to us of the meeting is attached at Schedule 1 to this report.

16. The Assistant Commissioner recommended that our draft proposals should be confirmed subject to the change of certain ward names, to a boundary alteration required to incorporate St Peters Church, Petersfield, into the proposed St Peters ward, and to any other boundary alterations which might be made on the advice of Ordnance Survey in the interests of good boundaries, in particular having regard to the boundary between the proposed St Mary's and Heath wards which followed at one place a dismantled railway line which might be subject to development in the future.

17. We considered again our draft proposals in the light of the comments which we had received and of the Assistant Commissioner's report. We noted that, because of the provisions of paragraph 3(2)(b) of the 1972 Act, our acceptance of the Assistant Commissioner's recommendations with respect to boundary modifications, depended on action by the District Council to modify the boundaries for parish electoral purposes. We concluded that the alterations recommended by the Assistant Commissioner in Petersfield should be made and decided to bring them to the attention of the District Council with a request that they should consider them, and any changes which might be recommended by Ordnance Survey, in finalising their proposed order under section 50(4) of the Act to establish wards of the town. We asked also that they should make their proposed parish warding order for the parish of Horndean; in doing so, they should consult with the Ordnance Survey and consider any modification which they might recommend in the interests of better boundaries.

18. We considered the changes in the names of some of the wards which the Assistant Commissioner had recommended and resolved to adopt them.

19. In due course the District Council sent us copies of the orders which they had made under section 50(4) of the 1972 Act in relation to the parishes of Petersfield and Horndean. We noted that modifications had been made to include St Peters Church in the proposed St Peters ward and to avoid the dismantled railway line to which the Assistant Commissioner had referred. Ordnance Survey informed us that they had been consulted before the orders were made and that the boundaries which the District Council had established had their approval. We resolved to adopt the revised wards as district wards and to formulate our final proposals accordingly.

20. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedules 2 and 3 to this report. 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

21. 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 the East Hampshire District Council and will be made available for public inspection at the Council's main offices. Copies of this report (without maps) 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)

DIANA ALBEMARLE

T C BENFIELD

MICHAEL CHISHOLM

ANDREW WHEATLEY

F B YOUNG

DAVID R SMITH

4 December 1975

THOMAS FOORD
LL.B (HONS.), F.C.I.B., L.M.R.T.P.I.
SOLICITOR

—
WORTHING 200766

SCHEDULE I
75 FIRST AVENUE,
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7th October 1975.

Your ref: LGBC/D/17/3

D.R. Smith Esq.,
Secretary,
Local Government Boundary
Commission for England,
20 Albert Embankment,
London, SE1 7TJ.

Dear Sir,

REVIEW OF THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR
THE DISTRICT OF EAST HAMPSHIRE

1. I have to report on the local meeting held at the Town Hall, Petersfield, on Tuesday 30th September 1975 in connection with the review of the electoral arrangements for the District of East Hampshire, following the representations which had been made on the draft proposals for the District published by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. A list of the persons attending the meeting, with their addresses and the interests they represent, is attached.
2. At the meeting the representatives of the District Council submitted a numerical analysis, revised to September 1975 showing (a) the actual electorate in 1974, (b) the estimate of the projected electorate in 1979, which was prepared in June 1974 and used as the basis for the District Council's draft scheme, (c) the 1979 projected electorate reviewed in September 1975, (d) the entitlement of councillors for the several wards based on these estimates. A copy of this numerical analysis is enclosed. Reference was made throughout the meeting to the revised 1979 figures, and they have also been used for the purposes of this report, except where otherwise stated.

3. The Local Government Boundary Commission's draft proposals are based substantially on the scheme proposed by the District Council, and provide for the district to be divided into 31 wards returning a total of 42 Councillors, as follows:

<u>Name of Ward</u>	<u>Councillors</u>	<u>Name of Ward</u>	<u>Councillors</u>
ALTON SW AND BEECH	2	SELBORNE	1
ALTON HOLYBOURNE	1	GRAYSHOTT	1
ALTON NORTH EAST	2	HEADLEY	2
ALTON NORTH WEST	1	WHITEHILL-LINDFORD	1
ALTON SOUTH EAST	1	WHITEHILL-DEADWATER	
PETERSFIELD -		AND WHITEHILL	3
ST PETERS	2	BRAMSHOT	3
PETERSFIELD -		LISS	2
ST MARYS	2	GREATHAM	1
PETERSFIELD-HEATH	1	STEEP	1
BENTLEY	1	EAST MEON	1
BINSTED	1	HORNDEAN-MURRAY	1
BENTWORTH	1	HORNDEAN-KINGS	1
ROPLEY	1	HORNDEAN -	
FOUR MARKS	1	CATHERINGTON	1
FARRINGDON	1	HORNDEAN-HAZELTON	1
MEDSTEAD	1	ROWLANDS CASTLE	1
		CLANFIELD	2

4. The names of the Wards proposed by the Commission differ in some cases from those submitted by the District Council. Where the Council had proposed to call a ward after the names of all the constituent parishes the Commission decided that the name should be abbreviated to that of the largest constituent parish.

5. In the period between the publication of the Commission's draft proposals and the date of the local meeting the question of the names proposed for the wards had clearly been under consideration in the area and by the Local Government Sub-Committee of the District Council. It was generally agreed that long cumbersome names comprising the names of all the parishes in a proposed ward should be avoided and a short name used, possibly, but not necessarily, the name of the largest parish.

The Commission's proposals, therefore, to use the ward names of Farringdon (instead of Chawton, Farringdon, East Tisted, and Newton Valence) and Selborne (instead of Selborne, Kingsley and Worldham) were accepted.

In the case of Bentworth ward (which comprises Bentworth, Lasham, Shalden and Wield) it was suggested that the neutral name of Northdowns ward should be used and that for the proposed Greatham ward (Greatham, Hawkley, Colemore and Priors Dean) the name The Hanger ward would be preferable, having local significance.

Where, however, the ward comprises two parishes only the matter was far more delicate, and it was felt that an insistence on a single name would unnecessarily offend local loyalties and sensitivity. There was no real case for destroying local identities and in the interests of the information of the general public it was felt that the names of both parishes should be used in the Ward name. This applied particularly where the ward was comparatively large in area and the parish centres were some distance apart. The following changes to the names adopted by the Commission are therefore proposed.

<u>WARD AS NAMED IN THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION'S DRAFT PROPOSALS</u>	<u>SUGGESTED NAME</u>
Bentley	Froyle and Bentley
Bentworth	Northdownland
Ropley	Ropley and West Tisted
Whitehill - Deadwater and Whitehill	Whitehill - Bordon and Whitehill
Bramshott	Bramshott and Liphook
Greatham	The Hanger
Steep	Froxfield and Steep
East Meon	East Meon and Langrish
Horndean - Hazelton	Horndean - Hazleton
Clanfield	Clanfield and Buriton

6. I feel that the above suggestions represent a reasonable and acceptable compromise, and I recommend their adoption.

7. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to dealing with the representations which had been made to the Commission, or were made at the meeting, relative to specific areas or wards within the district, as follows:

8. LISS In the draft proposals Liss Ward is allocated 2 Councillors, based on a projected 1979 Entitlement of 2.41. The revised entitlement is 2.49. Councillor Dr. Mark argued strongly that the representation of Liss on the District Council should be increased from two to three councillors. He felt that Liss had been unfairly

treated from the start and he contrasted the number of electors per councillor in Liss, a rural area, with the comparative figures for Alton and Petersfield. He detailed all the prospective land available for development and felt that the District Council's forecast of future population was low. He was supported by Mr. Robinson, representing Liss Forest Residents Association, and Councillor Russell.

For the District Council it was agreed that the possible development land had been correctly identified, but that was a comparatively simple matter. Less simple to calculate was the likely number of dwelling units, the occupancy rate and how many units would be completed and occupied during the review period. It was not an exact science but the Council had taken as many factors as possible into consideration, including the number of unoccupied houses in the area, the slowing down of development, the economic situation, and the increase in commuting costs. They felt that their estimate of the probable growth in the area was reasonable. Dr. Mark pointed out that even if one accepted the Council's figure of an entitlement of 2.49, an increase in the Liss electorate of only 20 electors would be sufficient to tip the balance above 2.5. The case for Liss was supported also by the East Hampshire Liberal Association.

It is clear that the suggestion of an additional Councillor for Liss must be considered in relation to the entitlement of Alton, Petersfield and Horndean, because of the re-calculation which is required in these areas if there is an increase in the total number of councillors for the district. I deal, therefore, with this matter later in this report.

9. GRAYSHOTT Mr. Harris, the Chairman of Grayshott Parish Council, put the case for an additional Councillor for Grayshott. He emphasised the handicap a ward was under when represented by only one councillor, in particular the impossibility of securing seats on important committees of the District Council. He was supported by the East Hampshire Liberal Association.

The representatives of the District Council pointed out that the 1979 forecast entitlement of Grayshott was only 1.12, and that there would have to be a very significant increase in the electorate before the Ward had an entitlement of two councillors.

While I appreciate and sympathise with the difficulties outlined by Mr. Harris, they are for the most part common to other single member wards, and they do not provide sufficient justification for an increase in membership out of proportion to the other wards in the district. I do not, therefore, recommend any change.

10. FOUR MARKS In the Commission's letter of the 4th September 1975 to the Chief Executive of the District Council announcing the holding of the local meeting, it was stated that one of the issues to be discussed at the meeting was that the proposed Four Marks Ward should be allocated an extra councillor. This arose from a representation to that effect which had been made to the Commission. In fact, although I invited comment, this matter was not pursued in any way at the meeting.

I note from the correspondence that the Parish Council have not themselves pursued the allocation of an additional member, and that the 1979 forecast entitlement of 1.48, on which the Commission based its proposals, has been revised downwards to 1.22.

I do not, therefore, recommend any change in the draft proposals for Four Marks.

11. HEADLEY Councillor Watson, who is both a district and parish councillor, put the case for an additional councillor for Headley Ward. He challenged the District Council's forecast of the 1979 electorate and referred to the proposals contained in the Mid Hampshire Plan. He identified the area of land available for development. The District Council supported their figures and emphasised that some of the development was unlikely to be completed within the forecast period due to lack of sewerage facilities.

I note that Headley had an electorate in 1974 of 3,029 with an entitlement of 2.25 councillors. The original figure for 1979 was an electorate of 3,800, with an entitlement of 2.48, and it was on this figure that the District Council and the Commission proposed a two councillor ward. On the revised forecast the 1979 electorate is expected in fact to be lower, at 3,492 with an entitlement of 2.25.

I recommend that the draft proposals for Headley Ward be confirmed.

12. ALTON Two specific matters fell to be considered for the Alton area, the first being that the proposed 2 member Alton South West and Beech Ward should be divided into two district wards, each returning one councillor. Mr. Powell, the Chairman of the Beech Village Association, put the case for this proposal. The Association were desirous of achieving separate parish status, and in line with this they proposed that for the purpose of representation on the District Council Beech Village should be joined with part of the South West Ward of Alton and return a single member. The Association felt that Beech Village was a distinct community, with a rural rather than an urban environment, and would be better represented as a separate ward. This was supported by Councillor Morton B. Wilson, who was unable to be present at the meeting but who wrote to the Commission and to me prior to the meeting.

The second matter for discussion at the meeting was that consideration should be given to the ward boundaries in Alton to ensure greater electoral equality of representation without increasing the number of district councillors. The local political association which had put forward this suggestion was asked by the Commission to provide details of the revisions they would be putting forward in advance of the meeting. In the event no further details were forthcoming and the matter was not pursued at the meeting.

Alton Town Council opposed both these suggested changes and supported the Commission's draft proposals. They felt that the question of dividing the South West and Beech Ward into two could well wait until the next review, because (i) Beech was seeking separate parish status and if successful it would likely be combined with other parishes in returning one member to the District Council, (ii) the major growth for Alton within the next five years was expected to be in the South West Ward (Windmill Hill), (iii) the present combination of Beech and South West Ward was essential if there was to be an acceptable number of electors per member.

The Town Council also felt that the present average representation per member was about right, and the draft proposals being based on the traditional ward system for Alton were simple and would be more easily understood by the electorate than any radical changes.

I feel that the views of Alton Town Council are right, and I recommend that the suggestions for the division of South West and Beech Ward, and for the revision of ward boundaries be rejected.

On the general question of the representation of the Alton area (7 members) relative to the East Hampshire District as a whole, the Town Clerk, Mr. Ings, emphasised that his Council supported the Boundary Commission's draft proposals, based on a district council of 42 members. If, however, additional councillors were conceded for other areas then his Council would wish to reconsider their position. I deal with this matter later in this report in conjunction with Liss, Horndean and Petersfield.

13. PETERSFIELD In the Commission's draft proposals Petersfield is divided into three wards, St. Peters Ward and St. Marys Ward, each returning two councillors to the District Council, and Heath Ward, returning one councillor. Based on the electorate for 1974 the entitlement for these wards was 2.14, 1.80 and 1.20 respectively. In the original forecast of the electorate for 1979, on which the Commission made its proposals, the entitlement was shown as 2.21, 2.35 and 1.07. In the revised forecast for 1979 the entitlement is 2.13, 2.21 and 1.34.

Petersfield Town Council made representations to the Commission that the proposed district warding arrangements for the town, including the total number of councillors allocated to the town, should be reconsidered, and that the town should have a total representation of six councillors on the district council.

The case for Petersfield was very ably argued by Councillor Oates, Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee of the Town Council. He submitted a schedule showing the total estimated 1979 electorate for the Petersfield area to be 8,832. This is only marginally higher than the revised District Council's forecast of 8,806. Using the District Council's estimate Councillor Oates submitted that taking the Town Council area as a whole, with a 42 member council as proposed, Petersfield's entitlement would be 5.68, and justified a total representation of 6 councillors on the District Council.

Basically the argument was that instead of Petersfield being divided into 3 wards returning 2, 2 and 1 councillor, the town should be divided into three virtually equal

wards, each returning two councillors. Councillor Cates outlined the practical advantages of this proposal and submitted plans showing two possible arrangements.

Mr. Day, the Chairman of the Petersfield Conservative Association, supported the Town Council. He felt that if the Commission's draft proposals were approved Petersfield would be locked in to a permanently unfavourable position, and that now was the time to correct this.

Mr. Wilshin, Secretary and Solicitor to the East Hampshire District Council, opposed Petersfield's suggestions. The three wards proposed by the District Council and adopted by the Boundary Commission in their draft proposals had a 1974 entitlement of 2.14, 1.80 and 1.20 respectively and were correctly represented by 2, 2 and 1 councillors. On the 1979 revised forecast the entitlement of the three wards would be 2.13, 2.21 and 1.34, again correctly represented by 2, 2 and 1 councillors. It was wrong for Petersfield to seek to "aggregate" the electorate for the three wards, then to re-draw the ward boundaries to produce 3 equal wards returning two councillors each. If this principle were accepted it would have repercussions elsewhere and would lead to justifiable claims for a further increase in councillors. The District Council felt that a council of 42 members was right, and this had been generally accepted throughout the area.

I deal with these conflicting arguments later in this report, but during the discussion two other matters arose to which I would draw the Commission's attention. Firstly, the boundary as drawn for the proposed St. Peters Ward excludes St. Peters Church itself. It was generally agreed that the necessary marginal boundary alteration should be made, and I recommend that this should be done. Secondly it was pointed out that the boundary between the proposed St. Marys Ward and Heath Ward follows at one place the line of a dismantled railway line. This area may be bulldozed in connection with future development, and no doubt the Ordnance Survey would wish to consider its suitability as a boundary.

14. BURITON In the Commission's draft proposals the Parish of Buriton is combined with the Parish of Clanfield to form the two member district ward of Clanfield and Buriton. Representations had been made by the East Hampshire Liberal Association to the District Council, with a copy to the Commission, that the Parish of Buriton should be included in a ward of Petersfield, for district electoral purposes.

Mr. Wade, for the Clanfield Branch of the Liberal Association, supported this proposal. He submitted that the natural focus for Buriton was towards Petersfield. On the other hand the orientation of Clanfield for shopping, leisure and employment was towards Horndean and Portsmouth. In his view Clanfield has no natural links with Buriton, being separated by 4 miles of scrub land, farms and forest, and the villages were on opposite sides of Butser Hill. The two communities were virtually separate.

Mrs. Piggott, the Chairman of Buriton Parish Council, however, supported the Commission's proposals on behalf of the Parish Council, and objected to the suggestion that Buriton should be joined with Petersfield. The Commission's proposals were also supported by Councillor Sandford, who felt that there was no justification for joining Buriton with Petersfield. He felt that the relations with Clanfield had been magnificent since they were joined together. There was a good community spirit in spite of the fact that the two villages are not very close. Both were mainly rural communities, and neither Parish Council supports a change.

For Petersfield Town Council it was stated that while they would welcome Buriton being added to the Petersfield area, it was largely a matter for Buriton to decide.

There was no doubt that the preponderant view was that Buriton should remain with Clanfield, and I recommend that the Commission's proposals in this respect be confirmed.

15. HORNDEAN In the Commission's draft proposals Horndean is divided into 4 wards, each returning one councillor to the district council. The respective entitlements of the four wards, based on the revised 1979 forecast, are 1.11, 1.23, 1.26 and .94, but it is important to note that if these entitlements are aggregated, the combined figure is 4.54. The aggregate entitlement based on the 1974 electorate is 4.71.

When the District Council proposed its draft scheme Horndean Parish Council wrote to the District Council expressing the view that there should be five single member wards for Horndean. However, this was not pursued with the Commission following the publication of the draft proposals for 4 single member wards. At the meeting Councillor Wright, the Chairman of Horndean Parish Council, stated that the Council felt that the proposed 4 wards were right for the area, having regard to the forecast electorate.

Councillor W.P. Ness had independently made proposals to the Commission in October 1974 and again in April 1975, after the draft proposals had been published, pressing for the division of Horndean into 5 wards, each returning one member to the District Council. Councillor Ness re-iterated his views at the local meeting. He emphasised the disparity which Horndean was under when considering the number of electors per councillor on a basis of 4 wards, contrasted with the rest of the district. He also referred to the likely growth of development in the area. In this connection it should be appreciated that the original 1979 forecast showed a total entitlement of 4.38, but the District Council's revised forecast gives an entitlement of 4.54.

Parish Councillor Mrs. Hawkins also contributed to the debate. The Parish Council were not adamant about the number of councillors for Horndean being 4. There was a case for 5, and this would be stronger if additional councillors were agreed for other areas.

16. BRAMSHOTT When the Commission's draft proposals were published there was a suggestion from the East Hampshire Liberal Association that the Parish of Bramshott should be warded, but it was not clear whether this was intended only for Parish electoral purposes or for District electoral purposes also. In the event this matter was not pursued at the meeting, and I recommend no change in the draft proposals for Bramshott, other than the change of name referred to in paragraph 5 above.

17. Prior to the meeting and when the meeting concluded I made an inspection of the area to consider the various matters which had been raised with the Commission and during the meeting.

18. I come now to my conclusions and general recommendations. In reaching these I have had regard to the submissions made to the East Hampshire District Council and to the Local Government Boundary Commission, as well as to those made at the local meeting and my inspection of the district. I am grateful to all the councils, bodies, associations and individuals who have given so much of their time and thought to the electoral arrangements for the East Hampshire District in the interests of the district generally.

19 (i) I accept the District Council's revised forecast of the electorate for 1979 as the best estimate available.

While it was open to criticism and argument at the meeting, I am satisfied that the likely development land has been identified, that the proper criteria have been applied and the predicted growth is a reasonable forecast in line with the rate of growth achieved over the last few years and the present economic conditions. The District Council's estimate has the advantage of the same criteria having been uniformly applied over the whole area.

(ii) The Boundary Commission's proposals provide that in a council of 42 members Alton is entitled to 7 members, Horndean 4, Liss 2 and Petersfield 5. If, as Petersfield Town Council suggest for Petersfield and Councillor Ness suggests for Horndean, the aggregate electorate for 1979 is considered, then these councils with a forecast entitlement of 5.68 and 4.54 would both be entitled to an additional member. This would produce a District Council of 44 members, but would itself give rise to a re-calculation of the entitlement of the other areas. This is due to the fact that where a number of entitlements are marginal, an increase in the total number of councillors reduces the average electorate per councillor for the district as a whole, and so increases the entitlements throughout. With a council of 44, Alton and Liss both become entitled to an extra councillor, with entitlements of 7.54 and 2.61 respectively. Stability is achieved between these areas only with a council of 46 members, with representation and entitlement (re-calculated on a 46 member basis) as follows: Alton 8 members (7.89 entitlement); Horndean 5 members (4.99 entitlement); Liss 3 members (2.73 entitlement) and Petersfield 6 members (6.23 entitlement).

(iii) Although I appreciate the arguments so ably advanced by Liss and Petersfield in the interests of their areas, I do not feel that their claim for an additional councillor each can be accepted unless the end result is to produce a fairer and more generally acceptable scheme for the district as a whole, than that proposed by the district council and adopted by the Boundary Commission as their proposals.

(iv) I do not believe this to be the case. The District Council feel that the existing Council of 42 should not be increased, and that many Parishes had accepted the draft proposals on this basis. This is notably the case with Alton. If additional councillors were allocated to one area the balance would be upset and it might well result in a series of demands for extra councillors from a number of Parishes. I am sure that to increase the Council to 46 would be generally unwelcome and would create problems.

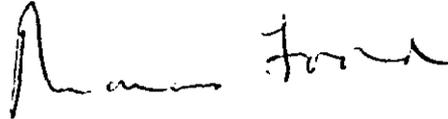
(v) I am satisfied that the District Council have produced as reasonable a scheme as is possible, having regard to the mixed nature of the area, and that they have achieved a fair urban/rural balance. I have no doubt that the Boundary Commission were right in adopting this scheme as the basis for their draft proposal.

20. RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend, therefore, that the Boundary Commission's draft proposals for the District of East Hampshire be confirmed, subject only to:

- (a) The change of certain ward names, as proposed in paragraph 5 of this report.
- (b) The boundary alteration required to incorporate St. Peters Church, Petersfield, into St. Peters Ward.
- (c) Any other boundary alterations which may be made on the advice of the Ordnance Survey in the interests of good boundaries, in particular having regard to the boundary between St. Mary's Ward and Heath Ward referred to in paragraph 13 of this report.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan Ford".

A long, solid horizontal line drawn below the signature, extending across the width of the signature.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Attendance List

NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS
R. H. Moores	E.H.D.C.	The Old College, Petersfield.
R. Wilshin	E.H.D.C.	7 Cross & Pillory Lane, Alton.
Mr. K. Heagren	E.H.D.C.	24 Whitcdown Lane, Alton.
Mr. K. R. Hathaway	E.H.D.C.	26 Eagle Close, Alton.
Mr. I. M. Jones	"	Mount Pleasant, Kingsworthy.
M. E. Crewe	Assistant County Secretary, Hampshire County Council	c/o The Castle, Winchester.
A. Weston	Grayshott P.C.	Hassocks, Horseshoe Bend, Grayshott.
F. L. H. Harris	Grayshott Parish Council	5 Wearage Gardens, Grayshott
A. M. Littlejohn	E.H.D.C.	Drumdownie, Grayshott
E. Jenkins	Liss P.C.	Lower Glea, Liss.
I. H. Holman	Liss P.C.	42 Sherwood Close, Liss.
C. Russell	E. H. D. C.	145 Andlers Ash Road, Liss.
S. S. Phillips	E.H.D.C.	2 Napier Road, Horndean.
H. K. Hasker	Bramshott & Liphook Parish C.	74 Chiltley Way, Liphook.
W. P. Ness	Representing Horndean	30 Glamorgan Road, Catherington
Mrs. P. Conway	Alton Town Council	Town Hall, Alton.
E. N. Ings	"	"
K. Anthony Oates	Petersfield Town Council	Square House, Petersfield.
Christopher Watson	Headley	Reynolds House, Standford.
P. Jenkins	Petersfield Town Council	Town Hall, Petersfield.
K. A. Hick	Petersfield Town Council	"
Mrs. V. Smith	District Councillor & Parish representing 4 Councils	Jockeys Bentworth
J. Mark	District Councillor	Forest Lodge, Liss.
L. W. Robinson	Liss Forest Residents' Assn.	64 Forest Road, Liss Forest.
W. Camplin	Alton Herald	Market Square, Alton.
J. A. Day	Petersfield Conservative Assn. Old Sheet House, Sheet.	
Stephen Pritchard	The Petersfield Post & Portsmouth Evening News	33 High Street, Petersfield.
R. M. Digby	E. H. D. C.	Inholms, Greatham.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION

Attendance List

NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS
Peter Wide	Clanfield Branch E. H. Liberal Assoc.	6 St. David's Road, Clanfield.
Penelope L. Ravenscroft (observer)	Alton Branch E. H. Liberal Assoc.	Oakwoode Farmhouse, Selborne, Alton.
K. H. N. Bulmer	Petersfield Branch Liberal Assoc.	The Gables, Ramshill, Petersfield.
W. H. Bradstreet	Personal Interest	12 North Road, Horndean.
W. R. Hawkins (Parish Cllr. Mrs.)	Interests of the electorate	65 St. Vincent Cres. Horndean.
N. Powell	Beech Village Assn.	24 Medstead Road, Beech, Alton.
Ann Sopp (Mrs.)	Beech Village Assn.	27 Kings Hill, Beech, Alton.
H. J. C. Jones	East Hampshire District Council	The Farm House, Catherington.
Hilary Jones	-	" "
W. E. Wright	Horndean Parish Council	35 Mapletrees Ave. Horndean.
M. J. Nicholas	E.H.D.C. & Petersfield Town Council	2 Mill Lane, Sheet.
Nickey Edwards	E.H.D.C.	62 Heath Road, Petersfield.
Cmdr. R. W. S. Rodger	Selborne Parish Council (observer)	Galley Hill Cottage, Selborne.
T. R. Thurling	14 Grosvenor Ave.	Barnet, Herts.
J. Ballard	Observer	12 Acacia Road, Guildford.
Wanda Rix	Vice Chairman E. H. Liberal Assoc. (Headley Division)	Wodehouse, Headley, Bordon.
H. W. Piggott	Buriton Parish Council	27 Bones Lane, Buriton.
L. A. Sandford	" " " and E.H.D.C.	Keepers Cottage, Buriton.

COUNTY: HAMPSHIRE

DISTRICT: EAST HAMPSHIRE

DISTRICT COUNCIL'S DRAFT SCHEME

PROJECTED ELECTORATE

NUMERICAL ANALYSIS

	No. of COUNCILLORS	1974		1979 (Prepared June, 1974)		1979 (Reviewed September, 1975)	
		ELECTORATE	ENTITLEMENT	ELECTORATE	ENTITLEMENT	ELECTORATE	ENTITLEMENT
1. Alton S.W. & Beech	2	2832	2.1	3085	2.01	3364	2.17
2. Alton, Holybourne	1	1344	.99	1460	.95	1696	1.09
3. Alton N.E.	2	2876	2.13	3080	2.00	3109	2.00
4. Alton N.W.	1	1637	1.21	1710	1.11	2043	1.32
5. Alton S.E.	1	912	.68	975	.63	933	0.60
6. St. Peters Ward	2	2884	2.14	3396	2.21	3306	2.13
7. St. Mary's Ward	2	2433	1.80	3608	2.35	3426	2.21
8. Heath Ward	1	1621	1.20	1650	1.07	2074	1.34
9. Froyle & Bentley	1	1086	.81	1310	.85	1218	0.78
10. Binsted	1	1220	.90	1390	.90	1303	0.84
11. Bentworth, Lasham, Shalden & Wield	1	1025	.76	1190	.77	1104	0.71
12. Ropley & West Tisted	1	1185	.88	1325	.86	1255	0.79
13. Four Marks	1	1759	1.30	2280	1.48	1900	1.22
14. Chawton, Farrington, E. Tisted, Newton Valence	1	1031	.76	1180	.77	1106	0.71
15. Medstead	1	1263	.94	1570	1.02	1350	0.87
16. Selborne, Kingsley, & Worldham	1	1233	.91	1410	.92	1517	0.85
17. Grayshott	1	1692	1.25	1740	1.13	1740	1.12
18. Headley	2	3029	2.25	3800	2.48	3492	2.25
19. Witchill & Deadwater	3	3808	2.82	4447	2.91	4821	3.11
20. Lindford	1	890	.66	1039	.68	1210	0.78
21. Bramshott	3	4248	3.15	4760	3.11	4705	3.04
22. Liss	2	3452	2.56	3700	2.41	3860	2.49
23. Greatham, Hawley, Colemore & Priors Dean	1	832	.62	935	.61	883	0.57
24. Froxfield & Steep	1	1291	.96	1380	.90	1347	0.87
25. East Meon, Langrish	1	905	.67	1010	.66	995	0.64

WARD	No. of COUNCILLORS	1974		1975 (Prepared June, 1974)		1979 (Reviewed September, 1979)	
		ELECTORATE	ENTITLEMENT	ELECTORATE	ENTITLEMENT	ELECTORATE	ENTITLEMENT
26. Hordean - Murray	1	1548	1.15	1588	1.03	1721	1.11
27. Hordean - Kings	1	1613	1.20	1692	1.10	1906	1.23
28. Hordean - Catherington	1	1781	1.32	1992	1.30	1964	1.26
29. Hordean - Hazelton	1	1406	1.04	1456	.95	1456	.94
30. Rowlands Castle	1	1642	1.22	1920	1.25	1726	1.11
31. Clanfield and Buriton	2	2190	1.62	2450	1.60	2685	1.73
						64993	41.08

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT - DESCRIPTION OF WARDS

ALTON SOUTH WEST AND BEECH WARD

The No 1 Ward of the parish of Alton.

ALTON - HOLYBOURNE WARD

The No 2 Ward of the parish of Alton.

ALTON NORTH EAST WARD

The No 3 Ward of the parish of Alton.

ALTON NORTH WEST WARD

The No 4 Ward of the parish of Alton.

ALTON SOUTH EAST WARD

The No 5 Ward of the parish of Alton.

PETERSFIELD - ST PETERS WARD

The Petersfield-St Peters ward of the parish of Petersfield

PETERSFIELD - ST MARYS WARD

The Petersfield-St Marys ward of the parish of Petersfield

PETERSFIELD - HEATH WARD

The Petersfield-Heath ward of the parish of Petersfield

FROYLE AND BLNTLEY WARD

The parishes of Froyle and Bentley.

BINSTED WARD

The parish of Binsted.

NORTH DOWNLAND WARD

The parishes of Bentworth, Lasham, Shalden and Wield.

ROPLEY AND WEST TISTED WARD

The parishes of Ropley and West Tisted.

FOUR MARKS WARD

The parish of Four Marks.

FARRINGTON WARD

The parishes of Chawton, Farrington, East Tisted and Newton Valence.

MEDSTEAD WARD

The parish of Medstead.

SELBORNE WARD

The parishes of Selborne, Kingsley and Worldham.

GRAYSHOTT WARD

The parish of Grayshott.

HEADLEY WARD

The parish of Headley.

WHITEHILL - LINDFORD WARD

The Lindford Ward of the parish of Whitehill.

WHITEHILL - BORDON AND WHITEHILL WARD

The Deadwater and Whitehill Ward of the parish of Whitehill.

BRAMSHOTT AND LIPHOOK WARD

The parish of Bramshott.

LISS WARD

The parish of Liss.

THE HANGER WARD

The parishes of Greatham, Hawkley and Colemore and Priors Dean.

FROXFIELD AND STEEP WARD

The parishes of Froxfield and Steep.

EAST MEON AND LANGRISH WARD

The parishes of East Meon and Langrish.

HORNDDEAN - MURRAY WARD

The Horndean-Murray ward of the parish of Horndean

HORNDDEAN - KINGS WARD

The Horndean-Kings ward of the parish of Horndean

HORNDDEAN - CATHERINGTON WARD

The Horndean-Catherington ward of the parish of Horndean

HORNDDEAN - HAZLETON WARD

The Horndean-Hazleton ward of the parish of Horndean

ROWLANDS CASTLE WARD

The parish of Rowlands Castle.

CLANFIELD AND BURITON WARD

The parishes of Clanfield and Buriton.

EAST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT: NAMES OF PROPOSED WARDS AND NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS

<u>NAME OF WARD</u>	<u>NO. OF COUNCILLORS</u>
ALTON - HOLYBOURNE	1
ALTON NORTH EAST	2
ALTON NORTH WEST	1
ALTON SOUTH EAST	1
ALTON SOUTH WEST AND BEECH	2
BINSTED	1
BRAMSHOTT AND LIPHOOK	3
CLANFIELD AND BURITON	2
EAST MEON AND LANGRISH	1
FARRINGDON	1
FOUR MARKS	1
FROYLE AND BENTLEY	1
FROXFIELD AND STEEP	1
GRAYSHOTT	1
HEADLEY	2
HORNDEAN - CATHERINGTON	1
HORNDEAN - HAZLETON	1
HORNDEAN - KINGS	1
HORNDEAN - MURRAY	1
LISS	2
MEDSTEAD	1
NORTH DOWNLAND	1
PETERSFIELD - HEATH	1
PETERSFIELD - ST MARY'S	2
PETERSFIELD - ST PETERS	2
ROPLEY AND WEST TISTED	1
ROWLANDS CASTLE	1
SELBORNE	1
THE HANGER	1
WHITEHILL - BORDON AND WHITEHILL	3
WHITEHILL - LINDFORD	1

10
11

12
13