

Enfield London Borough

Personal Details:



Organisation Name: Weir Hall Ratepayers Association

Comment text:

We would like to propose that Devonia Gardens, N18 and nos 100 - 190 Empire Avenue, N18 (even numbers) be put back into Upper Edmonton. It makes no sense to have these properties (approx. 100) within the Bowes ward

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Stephen Elston [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 January 2019 19:32:49
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Electoral Review: Ward Boundaries in London Borough of Enfield

Dear Dan and Alison,

I was present at your electoral review briefing for community groups in the Civic Centre on 7th November last year.

I represent Highlands Ward in the London Borough of Enfield as Chairman of the Western Enfield Residents' Association (WERA). WERA is an active and effective organisation with a well documented history extending back to 1945. Eligibility for membership has, since the last boundary review, been closely linked to the geographic footprint of the Ward. Residents have a strong sense of identity with the existing Ward and its place in the Borough. In terms of renewing subscribers (we have nearly 1200) our Association is, probably, the largest of its kind in Enfield. Our success reflects also the work regularly volunteered by a dedicated team of around 40 loyal Envoys. We have a strong mixed Committee, recently expanded to 7 officers (two of whom are below retirement age).

Our website gives abundant evidence of our Ward heritage, environment and character. Generic features are addressed under pages which describe CONNECTIONS, SECURITY, OPEN SPACES, WATERCOURSES, HIGHWAYS, FOOTPATHS, BUILDINGS, ENTERPRISE and COMMUNITY. The site is live and currently being updated for changes in 2019. In our Winter newsletter, distributed in December, we set out the following information for residents:

Electoral review of Ward Boundaries: the Local Government Boundary Commission is an independent body tasked with conducting this review which, for the Borough of Enfield, was last exercised in 2000. Having only minus 1% deviation, Highlands Ward is very close to the average number of electors (counted in 2017) and compares favourably with Town (+10%) or Jubilee (-10%). Your Committee believes boundary changes are not needed.

*However; there is a compelling view that our Ward should be renamed **Merryhills** in keeping with significant and enduring features such as Merryhills Primary School, Merryhills Brook (crossing farm-land north then down towards the Jolly Farmers Pub) and Merryhills Drive (a key service road through the Laing Estate). Meanwhile, we live alongside the confusing legacy of Highlands Housing Estate (replacing long demolished Highlands Hospital but firmly on Winchmore Hill Ward).*

With regard to a proposed reduction of appointed Councillors (two per Ward) the Committee's position is neutral.

We invited opinions and suggestions, to us – or direct to the Local Government Boundary Commission. While the Association has received no written responses from residents our Committee has received verbal approvals, while encountering no objections to (or sentiments or arguments against) these statements. Our Committee is of the view that a change of name is logical, would remove confusion in the longer term and would enable us to move forward under a more cohesive and appropriate banner.

Your acknowledgement and reaction to our proposal for change of name from Highlands to Merryhills would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Stephen Elston

Chairman & Webmaster

W.E.R.A

Western Enfield Residents' Association

Affiliated to the Federation of Enfield Residents and Allied Associations (FERAA)

<http://westernenfieldresidentsassociation.com/>