

Carlsson-Hyslop, Dan

From: Craig Simmons [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 November 2018 13:03
To: reviews
Subject: Response to ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORD: FURTHER CONSULTATION

To: reviews@lgbce.org.uk

Response to ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORD: FURTHER LIMITED CONSULTATION FOR SOUTH EAST OXFORD 6th November 2018

Having reviewed the public comments submitted, the Green Group believe that the revised Boundary Commission proposals (6th November) represent a balanced response to the many and varied views expressed and are a significant improvement on the originally proposed boundaries for South East Oxford.

The revised proposals retain - and in some cases improve - electoral equality whilst better reflecting community boundaries and identities as well as promoting more effective and convenient local government for the following reasons:

- A less drastic change from current ward boundaries
- Leaves current polling districts largely intact
- Better alignment with current residents associations and neighbourhood watch schemes
- Better alignment with corresponding County Division boundaries
- Splits fewer residential streets across ward boundaries
- Better alignment with current and proposed controlled parking zones
- Better alignment with Conservation Areas
- Better reflection of travel patterns

We acknowledge that the proposed Donnington and Iffley Ward spans two of the smaller communities, but the need to retain electoral equality makes this inevitable. In fact, this is the case now where the Iffley Fields and Donnington communities are accommodated within a single ward (Iffley Fields Ward). The arrangements within the revised proposals represent, we believe, an overall improvement in this respect.

We accept the Boundary Commission's suggested ward names. As can be seen from the Boundary Commission's own Recommendations Map, there is good alignment with the names given to different parts of the City by the Ordnance Survey.

Prepared by Cllr Craig Simmons and Cllr Dick Wolff (St Mary's Ward, Oxford City Council)

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Craig Simmons
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Cllr. Ed Turner,

4th December 2018

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
By email

Dear Sir or Madam,

I write to express my strong objections to the proposed split of Iffley Village from Rose Hill estate in your proposed review.

My reasons are as follows:

- There is a strong connection between the communities (if indeed they are two communities) of Rose Hill and Iffley. Many Rose Hill residents attend St Mary's Church in Iffley. There is one (very successful) Low Carbon Group for the area. The Lenthall Road allotments are enjoyed by people from the two areas. The Rose Hill Junior Youth Club is actively supported by people from Iffley, including the "Friends of Iffley Village" and the church.
- The proposed split would see part of the new ward contained in Littlemore Parish, and part not. This was previously the case for part of Rose Hill estate, and a source of confusion and irritation to all concerned – it is much better for parish council boundaries to be coterminous with City Council electoral wards.
- People from Iffley Village are very likely to use the amenities on Rose Hill main road, including the shops and restaurants.
- The proposed boundary, in fact, divides the area which would define itself as "Iffley Village" (that covered by the "Friends of Iffley Village" between the two wards.
- Residents in Iffley Village inform me they feel some connection with Donnington, in their newly proposed ward, but absolutely none with the roads off the Cowley Road. By contrast, the existing Rose Hill and Iffley ward (which was, I think, identical to the "Rose Hill" ward in your previous proposals, reflects community links very well.

I suspect this change has been proposed not for any positive rationale in relation to our part of the city, but simply as a result of an attempt to address concerns expressed in other areas. Unfortunately, these proposals create a much worse situation in our area, and I would ask you, in addressing problems elsewhere, to

please consider recognising the very strong community links in the current Rose Hill and Iffley ward.

As an aside, if this suggestion is taken on board, I would suggest the name "Rose Hill and Iffley" is maintained (this is the current ward name but in the previous set of proposals, it changed to "Rose Hill").

Please do not hesitate to contact me about the content of this representation if it would be useful.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Ed Turner