

David Hall

[REDACTED]  
Oxhey Hall Residents' Association  
Representative of a community group/organisation  
[REDACTED]

14/01/2013 11:50

"Dear Sir/Madam,

Your website says that today (14/1/13) is the deadline date for comments on this district council. However there do not appear to be any proposals for change to comment on. Our district councillor has informed me that today is the deadline date for proposals to be made to you by councils and/or political parties and that public consultation will then start on these proposals.

If the councillor is correct then I would appreciate information on how these proposals can be viewed and what arrangements are in place for comment on them.

If your website is correct then

(1) we wish to register our disquiet that this stage of the public consultation is being done 'in a vacuum' since we have nothing to comment on over and above the submission which we made at the previous stage of the consultation (our letter of 27 August 2012).

(2) the best we can do today is send you the text of a DRAFT letter, composed by me, which our Residents' Association committee will consider this evening. No doubt there will be further suggestions and, if today is your deadline, I would like to request that this ammended version can be sent to you tomorrow. However if today is not the deadline I request that this letter is deleted from the file pending a more detailed submission by us to meet some future deadline date. The next section is this draft letter and it is followed by some further comments :

Dear Sir,

Our views about boundary changes in principle were included in our letter of 27 August 2012. These cannot be added to in detail since, even at this late stage, we know very little more about the detailed proposals. This in itself is an extremely unsatisfactory situation. In fact we wish to appeal against the lack of public consultation on this matter. The facts as we understand them are :-

1. We do not seem to be able to use your website to view any proposals which might have been made.
2. The Three Rivers District Council website also does not appear to contain any information about what is being proposed either by officers or political parties.
3. We have heard that a special Council meeting was held last week to agree an officer proposal but this has not been made available for public comment either before or after the meeting.
4. We understand that one of the proposals agreed at this meeting was to split the Parish Ward of Carpenders Park and merge one part with us (Oxhey Hall ward) and the other part with other wards within the Watford Rural Parish. We have the following concerns over this proposal :-
  - a). according to the map and list of ward electorates which are available on your website, Carpenders Park is the largest ward within the whole District Council. This indicates its self contained nature so that splitting it would not seem to be sensible.
  - b). there is no direct road link between us and Carpenders Park.
  - c). there is a main railway line separating us.

d). we are distinctly different from Carpenders Park in terms of history of the building of the estates; amenities available (e.g. schools, shops, medical services); presence of businesses and commercial enterprises. We have nothing against Carpenders Park but these historical and geographical differences are facts which are very pertinent to the matter of councillor representation.

Yours sincerely,  
David Hall,  
Chairman,  
Oxhey Hall Residents' Association,

(3) I have tried to register on your website (the other option for submitting a comment) but could not make it work. I selected 'create an account' and entered all the information asked for. But when I then tried to log in I was asked for a User Name but this was not the title of any field which I had completed. I tried my name then the organisation name and also my email address but none of them worked. Please supply more information on how to complete this process satisfactorily.

Yours sincerely,  
David Hall,  
Chairman,  
Oxhey Hall Residents' Association."