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Dear Sirs

With reference to the above I have pleasure in attaching a copy of a proposal by the Councillors for Parkside Ward to adopt 663 residents currently in Heatherside Ward.

We trust that the attached meets with your approval.

Yours

Edward Hawkins

Edward Hawkins MA; BA (Hons); MRICS;MCIM; MCM
Councillor – Parkside Ward
Surrey Heath Borough Council
Chairman – Planning Applications Committee

[REDACTED]

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Electoral Review of Surrey Heath Borough Council

Parkside Councillor Proposal for Parkside Ward

10th October 2016

This proposal is supported by all three Ward Councillors for Parkside

The purpose of this paper sets out the case for Parkside Ward to adopt approximately 663 residents currently in Heatherside Ward, therefore meeting the requirement for the joint Wards to reduce the numbers of councillor positions from the present six to five.

The area identified by the Parkside Councillors as being suitable to transfer to Parkside is a self-contained triangle to the west of Heatherside Ward, bounded by the Upper Chobham Road, Goldney Road and Old Bisley Road. The actual roads and resident numbers are set out below.

Road	Electorate	Road	Electorate
Upper Chobham Road (part)	50	Goldney Road (part)	30
Winding Wood Drive	40	Calvin Close	29
Westmorland Drive	20	Old Bisley Road (part)	50
Lincoln Close	14	Westerdale Drive	59
Warwick Close	27	Hambleton Close	38
Byron Avenue	91	The Ridings	64
Cairn Close	14	Holly Avenue	43
Carlton Close	32	Fern Close	62

The order of the roads has been arrived at sequentially to calculate the minimum number of houses/electorate that would need to move to create the required critical mass.

The property type within the selected roads is similar to that in the corresponding part of Parkside.

As a result of the population movement the following is achieved:

Total electors in the combined wards	9,925
Target electorate per Councillor	2,078
3 Councillors @ 2,078	6,234
Parkside - current	5,116
Plus the transferred electors of	663
Total	5,779

The variance is approximately 7.2%

Heatherside - current	4,809
Less transferred electors of	663
Total	4,146
2 Councillors @2,078	4,156

There is some rounding up and down in the figures but we consider that the resulting critical mass creates the desired outcome to meet the main criteria of The Boundary Commission.

Under the Parkside proposal, Heatherside would retain its own identity centred on the Recreation Ground, Shops and Community Centre.

We consider that the natural conclusion would be to move the least number of electorate and that is what the Parkside Councillors propose. Of the two Wards, Parkside has the largest land mass, the greater number of houses and residents.

Background to Parkside

The following is intended to give an understanding of the communities that exist within Parkside that have been nurtured by the Ward Councillors.

Parkside Ward wraps itself around Camberley Heath Golf Course – rated 88th best course in England. The area covered by the course is designated in the Surrey Heath Core Strategy as “Green Space within Settlement Areas” and a “Site of Nature Conservation Importance”

Social Media:

Each of the three councillors is a user of Social Media. Although we produce newsletters, social media and personal contact is the most commonly used method for us to communicate with the electorate both inside and outside the Ward. Furthermore, there are Facebook Groups that cover specific areas of the Ward, to which we are regular contributors, namely:-

- Copped Hall Residents and Neighbourhood
- Parkside & Frimley Residents
- Parkside Parking Forum (a special purpose group set up as a result of overflow parking from the adjoining Frimley Park Hospital)
- Frimley Grapevine

Schools:

There are two “feeder” schools in The Grove and Prior Heath Infant schools. Each has a pre-school section.

Collingwood College, a “High Performing Specialist Academy for Technology and Applied Learning”, is the main comprehensive school for the Ward. The College is in walking distance of large parts of Parkside Ward.

Churches:

St Francis Church. This purpose built church is situated close to the junction of Upper Chobham and Chobham Roads. It currently holds the Afternoon Service for the combined Wards and we understand that due to pressure from the congregation, the Morning Service and other pastoral activities may move to Parkside. The church hall has also acts as a base for the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in conjunction with the Scouts at Longmeadow a major link road in the Ward as well as a meeting place for other community groups.

Sporting:

- Camberley Lawn Tennis Club at Southcote Park
- Camberley Heath Golf Club.

Shops:

There is a parade of shops in Farm Road containing:

- Dry cleaners
- Indian Takeaway
- General store with Post Office and Newsagent
- A second general store with greengrocers
- Chinese Takeaway
- Hairdressers

We have previously been told that due to the high number of home workers in the Ward, the Post Office is one of the best performing facilities in Surrey.

Youth:

1st Frimley Scouts are situated on Longmeadow and has about 100 members. We are presently working with them to assist on the planning/lease and some fundraising elements of a new Scout Hut. The Scouts also share the facility with the Guides from St Francis Church.

Warden Housing / Care Homes:

- Heathermead Court
- Cherrydale, Springfield Road

Social Housing:

- Scarlett Oaks
- Evergreen Road

Restaurant / Hotels:

The One Oak on the Portsmouth Road is a popular hotel/restaurant operated by Toby Carvery.

Parks / Open spaces:

Southcote Park is the main park area and in the centre of the ward. Towards either end of the Ward there are substantial council maintained green spaces on Parkside and Copped Hall.

Play areas:

Southcote Park has a dedicated enclosed play area covering a range of activities and ages. From the positive comments received we know that the play area is additionally used by residents from Heatherside and St Pauls Wards.

Evergreen also has a play area and there are non-council maintained areas on Scarlett Oaks and Heathside Park.

There is a policy, encouraged by the Ward Councillors, of adding new items to maintain the popularity and quality of the two Council owned facilities

Recycling facilities:

- Prior Road Car Park

Medical:

There is no doctor's surgery in the Ward; however Frimley Park Hospital abuts part of the Western boundary. We do have a well-used Veterinary Practice and a number of private facilities for personal care such as Chiropodists and alternative remedy practitioners.

Summary

The Parkside Councillors consider that their proposal is the most appropriate for the following reasons.

- It adopts a tighter area of houses on the northern boundary of Heatherside abutting the common boundary of the Upper Chobham Road comprising 663 residents. This will impact the least number of residents.
- The Heatherside Councillors proposed that 1,003 residents in 467 houses be transferred to their Ward. The locality is known as Copped Hall, although some of the areas such as Hillsborough Park, Heathside Park plus to a degree the Upper Chobham Road are not part of Copped Hall and can only assume to be included to boost electorate numbers (270).
- Most of Copped Hall and the adjoining development of Heathside Park have a common interest with the rest of Parkside Ward as the M3 Motorway comprises the northern boundary to the Ward. Parkside Ward has the longest populated boundary to the motorway of any of the Surrey Heath Wards.
- When campaigning with St Pauls Ward for the noise attenuation measures on the M3 Motorway, an awareness was generated in a shared issue and that there was a need to do something about it for the benefit of the wider community. A dialogue was established with many residents who became supporters over the years.
- This joining together was further enhanced when working with Bagshot and Windlesham Wards in campaigning for a quiet road surface. There was increased awareness of the benefits to the community when all parties joined together in a common cause.
- Copped Hall is in part a development of cul-de-sacs with interconnecting footpaths. The Parkside Councillors have worked with residents to keep these footpaths open to enable passage between the neighbourhoods.

- The Polling Station for the roads identified by the Heatherside Councillors is at Prior Heath School which is in the heart of Parkside and is well known to the residents. The Polling Station for the houses identified by the Parkside team will also be Prior Heath School, and for some of the residents it will be nearer than their existing one.
- Should the Heatherside proposal be adopted, it is unlikely that there will be two polling stations in Parkside as is at present. The second polling station is at The Grove School on the western boundary of the Ward. Whilst there are a large number of registered postal voters in the Ward many people like to vote in person and would need to travel to The Grove School. We consider that this will unnecessarily impact on community identity and may also make voters feel disenfranchised.
- When there was considered to be a risk of travellers coming to the open area on Copped Hall the residents worked with the Parkside Councillors to put in place a “ring of Steel” using their cars. This was a community led initiative.
- There is a dedicated website for Copped Hall to which the Parkside Councillors are regular contributors.

The Parkside Councillors on behalf of the residents of Parkside Ward urge the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to agree with the proposal that Parkside Ward remains intact and is joined by the identified area of Heatherside.