

Starkie, Emily

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 December 2017 17:52
To: reviews
Subject: Petersfield Conservative Branch submission
Attachments: Boundary review response from the Petersfield Conservative Branch.docx

Dear Sir

I have now tried to upload my submission to you several times and it will not let me do it. So I don't miss the deadline I now attach my submission to you for Petersfield Conservative branch.

I hope this is acceptable to you.

Kind regards

Julie Butler
Chairman (Petersfield Conservative Branch)

Response from Petersfield Conservative Branch

General comments

It is noted that the recommendation to reduce the District Councillors from 6 to 5 and reduce the Wards from 6 to 4. Then the other hand the recommendation is to leave the Town Council at six Wards and no change to the number of Councillors.

We fully accept that Sheet Parish is represented by Sheet Parish Council, so it does make sense to align the District boundary. It therefore makes no sense to call the Ward of St Marys bearing in mind the church in Petersfield is called St Peters, and St Marys church is in Sheet, which you are proposing to remove from Petersfield.

Petersfield has run on single member Wards and we cannot see any reason for this to change. It is easier for the electorate identify with this and it does bring all tiers of local government together. In the minds of local residents, there is the Council, they do not distinguish between Town and District or County come to that.

Every Ward in Petersfield is different. It is all about working closely with local community groups. The Town get to know these people on a one to one basis. We need to ensure they have a single point of contact, where the residents can turn to with their problems and enquires. Accountability is important. To keep a single point of contact at District works, they in turn work closely with their Town Council colleagues. It works well at the moment; we feel there is no need to change it.

The fact that two District Wards are proposed to disappear completely, but the intention is to leave the Town to remain with six, is totally confusing for residents. As I said before, many electors are confused already as to who represents them and also which council does what. With this in mind this will only confuse the situation more.

Also the District and Town Council elections are held at exactly the same time, every four years. The recommendation put forward will require some electors to vote at different polling stations in two different Wards. Petersfield has a larger older population that traditionally likes to vote in person. They really wouldn't like to go to two different polling stations. This may well have impact on voter turnout.

Petersfield Conservative recommends aligning the District and Town Wards to five Wards. All single Councillor Wards at District, and leave the Town Councillors at twelve, but increase to three Councillors in two Wards.

We are happy with the East Hampshire District Council recommendations from the Petersfield Ward Councillors (see the table below)

Petersfield new proposal for District

Ward	Number of Cllrs	Electorate at 27/11/17
Petersfield Bell Hill	1	2229
Petersfield Causeway	1	1820
Petersfield Heath	1	2213
Petersfield St Peters	1	2357
Petersfield – Ramshill Rother	1	2392
Total	5	11011

Recommendation – Increase District Wards to 5 and leave all Wards as single councillor Wards.

Petersfield new proposal for Town

Ward	Number of Cllrs	
Petersfield Bell Hill	2	
Petersfield Causeway	2	
Petersfield Heath	2	
Petersfield St Peters	3	
Petersfield – Ramshill Rother	3	
	12	

Petersfield Bell Hill

Railway line not to be used as hard boundary – incorporate Station Road to Tilmore Road and route boundary behind Osborne Road and Balmoral Way to define development boundary.

Petersfield Causeway

This is the Ward that will have the most development to remains more or less unchanged as suggested.

Petersfield Heath

Take out Moggs Mead, Lower Wardown, Lower Mead and Hanger Way (everything on Herne Farm estate). Use Pulens Lane as the natural boundary. Pulens Crescent, Geddes Way, Heathfield and Barnfield Road would stay as suggested. Include Weston Road, The Avenue, Sussex Gardens and anything leading up to Dragon Street.

Petersfield St Marys to be changed to St Peters

This should predominately stay at the heart of the Town. However, to balance elector numbers it is likely that we will need to include the Tilmore Gardens development covering the north of the cemetery.

Petersfield – New Ward Name to be confirmed – Rother/Ramshill

This is all Moggs Mead, (Herne Farm Estate) to follow boundary with Sheet Parish to the north including the RamshillBarentin Way development and Greenhurst Way creating the westerly border.

Julie Butler

Chairman – Petersfield Conservative Branch