

Starkie, Emily

From: Anthony Marten [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 December 2017 18:26
To: reviews
Subject: Fw: East Hampshire Ward Boundaries
Attachments: Petersfield Boundary response.docx; Whitehill and Bordon BC proposals.docx

From: Anthony Marten
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2017 6:57 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: East Hampshire Ward Boundaries

Dear Sir

I attach the proposals for the Ward Boundaries in Whitehill and Bordon made by County, District and Town Councillor Adam Carew and EHDC which East Hampshire Conservative Association strongly support. They reflect logical local geographical and historical boundaries and also our support for one Councillor wards which offer more effective voter representation, accountability and responsibility than having 2 Councillors in one ward.

I hope that you will take the detailed and excellent recommendations in this report into consideration.

Please acknowledge receipt

Many thanks

Anthony Marten
Chairman, East Hampshire Conservative Association

From: Anthony Marten
Sent: Saturday, December 9, 2017 6:55 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: East Hampshire Ward Boundaries

Dear Sir

I am Chairman of East Hants Conservative Association and I would like to make the following recommendations on the Ward Boundaries Proposals:

General points

Rural Wards – The ward names should more fully reflect the ward geographical boundaries in order that voters can more readily identify with their ward.

Greater emphasis should be placed on local and logical fit as opposed to just numbers of projected voters. For example a District Councillor representing 5 villages and with 2000 residents and who has to attend 5 Parish Council meetings has a lot more work to do than a DC representing a ward of say 10

streets in a town. Whether one Council ward has 200 more voters than another is not that material in terms of DC case workload.

We are not in favour of 2 Councillor wards in Alton, Whitehill and Bordon and Petersfield as it dilutes accountability and confuses responsibility. The elector needs to know the name of his/her Councillor and who to write to with any issue.

Ward specific proposals

Bentley and Binsted should be called Bentley (946 voters), Farringdon (565 voters) and Selborne (558 voters) thereby enabling the voter more readily to identify with the ward name. We would also exclude Bucks Horn and Rowledge (925 voters) which are on the outskirts of Farnham and identify themselves with Farnham and are some way from Bentley and Binsted. If the ward remains as proposed It would be preferable, given the very large geographical area and number of parishes, to have 2 x single Councillor wards. Incidentally your proposals include no Parish Councillors for Selborne – an oversight no doubt.

Bentworth and Froyle – agree with your proposals

Four Marks and Medsted should be called Four Marks, Medsted and Chawton again in terms of identity/elector buy-in. Agree with ward proposal.

Bramshott and Liphook – agree with your ward proposals

Grayshott, Headley and Lindford – agree with your proposals

Ropley and Tisted should be called Ropley, Hawkley and Hangers to reflect the geographical spread of the ward. Tisted is a very small village near Ropley and the name should be excluded in preference to Hawkley.

Froxfield and Steep – suggest include Stroud which shares services with Steep.

Buriton, East Meon - I would exclude Stroud which more naturally fits with Froxfield and Steep.

Liss – Should include Liss Forest.

Petersfield – I agree with the submission by EHDC and the Petersfield Conservative Branch. See attached

Whitehill and Bordon – I agree with the attached submission by Councillor Adam Carew. Single Councillor wards lead to more effective accountability, responsibility and fairer representation.

This leaves Greatham out on a limb. If Bucks Horn is dropped from the Bentley and Binsted ward then Kingsley could be included in the Bentley and Binsted ward with one councillor. Greatham could be included in another single Councillor ward incorporating Selborne, Farringdon, Worldham, Oakhanger and that part of Blackmoor that is not transferred to Whitehill, (Drift Road and Plantation Way moving to Whitehill Hogmoor).

Alton – to follow

I would be grateful if you would confirm receipt of this email

Regards

Anthony Marten
Chairman, East Hampshire Conservative Association

East Hampshire Conservative Association

Response to the Boundary Review – Petersfield

General comments

It is noted that the recommendation is to reduce the total number of District Councillors from 6 to 5. With the understanding that is purely based on number of electors, consideration needs to be taken into account for fair and representation of individual votes. Sheet is now represented by Sheet Parish Council, so it makes perfect sense to align the District boundary. But the need for a Ward to be called St Mary's that doesn't even have any relevance as St Mary's church is in Sheet and now out of the boundaries of Petersfield altogether doesn't make any sense.

Recommendation to change the name of St Mary's to St Peter's to be consistent and reduce confusion.

We do not see any reason to make any of the Petersfield Wards into two member Wards. Single member wards are easier for the electorate to identify with. There is a question of accountability, and although all tiers of local authorities should work closely together, single member Wards at District level should be retained for clarity.

Consideration needs to be taken into account of local knowledge and Councillor case work workloads. Some wards are more challenging than others so workload differs.

Recommendations to ensure all Wards remain single Councillor Wards.

The original consultation was that the existing boundaries would increase in some wards, and others would decrease to equal the number of electors across the wards. With this in mind, Councillors were happy and therefore did not feel the need to respond initially. The outcome of the Commission's review was not expected. It is all about the **community** and **political engagement**, along with the geographical mix. Numbers come into the mix, but no one has ever had an issue with Wards not being exactly equal. **So continuing along this theme you may have one Ward where 80% of the electorate are politically engaged opposed to another Ward only engaging by 10%.**

Recommendation – to ensure the geographical mix and perception from the Community outweighs the number as importance.

Ward names and implications

The first comment to be made is on the ward of St Mary's. The church of St Mary's is in Sheet so not even part of Petersfield. In contrast St Peter's has been completely removed even though the centre of Petersfield has St Peter's church. There is no logic in removing the name of St Peter's.

Recommendation to keep the name of St Peters and change the name of St Marys

The fact that two District Wards are disappearing completely, but are going to still remain for Town council, therefore 4 Wards at District and 6 Wards at Town is confusing for residents. Many electors are already confused as to who represents them and what each council does, this just exacerbates the issue further.

To address the point further, East Hampshire District and Town Council elections are held on the same day every four years and the commission recommendations would confuse things further. This recommendation would require some residents to vote at two different polling stations in two different wards. This just adds to confusion and makes no sense. The demographics of Petersfield have a large number of the older generation who consider it to be very important to go and vote rather than by postal ballot. It would be wrong to expect them to go to two different stations. It may have a big impact on voter turnout.

Misalignment of Wards (County, District and Town)

As things stand at the moment there is a natural boundary for county divisions. The wards naturally fit into one division or the other (either Hangers or Butser). With the new proposal, wards such as Bell Hill and Heath would fall into both divisions. With the omission of Rother and St Peters at District, there is no connection across any of the three tiers.

Recommend that the three tier boundaries fit closer together for clarity

Recommendations for new Wards for Town and District.

As shown below it is stated the proposed new District and Town Wards

Proposed Boundary Commission new proposal for District

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	
Petersfield Bell Hill	1	
Petersfield Causeway	1	
Petersfield Heath	1	
Petersfield St Marys	2	
Total	5	

Proposed Boundary Commission new proposal for Town

Ward name	Number of Cllrs	
Petersfield Bell Hill	2	
Petersfield Causeway	2	
Petersfield Heath	2	
Petersfield Rother	1	
Petersfield St Marys	3	
Petersfield St Peters	2	
Total	12	

The Boundary commission state that they didn't receive any submissions relating to Petersfield during the consultation on warding patterns. This is because it was accepted there would be changes, but by moving boundaries to increase, or decrease to equalise Wards. Nothing was ever mentioned of anything so drastic the recommendations presented now.

Recommendation to find a sensible solution that will not disrupt the residents of Petersfield

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

The Boundary commissions proposals make absolutely no sense to have 4 Wards at District and 6 Wards at Town. Ideally it would be good to keep the District still at 6 Wards to compliment the Town but with losing Sheet to align with Sheet Parish Council, it is accept that it is not practical to continue down this route.

The Boundary commission is suggesting creating a Ward called St Marys that is both big and not manageable unless covered by two councillors. It is recommended to split this Ward and keep single councillor Wards.

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	

Looking at the boundaries in Petersfield, it makes sense to ensure that the District and Town boundaries are in alignment. By taking out Rother Ward and by using natural boundaries it would mean that the District and Town boundaries would mirror each other.

To enable this to happen, a map is attached to show the new boundaries.

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 Ramshill Barentin Way development and Greenhurst Way creating the westerly border.

EHDC BOUNDARY REVIEW SUBMISSION - WHITEHILL & BORDON WARDS

This response to the Boundary Commission review for East Hampshire for Whitehill comes in three parts.

1. Background - Single member vs multi member wards
the issue of Historic wards and placeshaping
2. Problems with the Boundary Commission's latest proposals
3. EHDC proposals for ward boundaries in Whitehill and Bordon based on historic communities, local identity and projected housing numbers.

1. Background

Whitehill is a distinct parish having been carved out of the ancient Mediaeval Royal Hunting Forest of Woolmer (Woolmer Forest) and the Mediaeval Parishes of Selborne and Headley in 1928/9. The land have been previously sold to the War Department in 1863 after the Royal Forest was abandoned. Around this time a separate new model estate was established at Blackmoor by the then Lord Chancellor Roundell Palmer who became the first Earl of Selborne.

Whitehill and Bordon is made up of distinct geographical areas and includes : Whitehill Village (Walldown), Bordon, Deadwater and Hollywater, Hogmoor and more recently Pinewood Village. Each have their own characteristics and own distinct communities more or less reflected in the current ward structure, although this requires some small but important amendments. EHDC proposals seek to account for the growth of the town whilst ensuring a more even distribution of electors, retaining historic communities within Whitehill and Bordon whilst making necessary amendments so the ward boundaries more accurately reflect the communities they are there to represent.

When Whitehill Village and Bordon narrowly voted to become a town in the early 1990s, Blackmoor to the south west and Lindford to the east decided to stay as a separate and distinct villages. They have their own communities and are fiercely independent of Whitehill and Bordon as a town. Greatham has always been completely separate from Whitehill & Bordon being situated 2 miles south from the start of Whitehill and Bordon - the old Whitehill Village beginning at Liphook Road. Greatham is just one of 7 parishes that abuts Whitehill Parish and has nothing in common with the town, Greatham looks more naturally to Liss and Liss Forest in the south in terms of its location and demographics. Whitehill Parish is surrounded by 7 other parishes Rogate (in West Sussex) to the south east, Bramshott and Liphook to the east, Headley to the north and east, Lindford to the north and east, Selborne to the west, Greatham Parish and Liss Parish to the South. All are very different and largely rural in nature. Whitehill and Bordon retains its rural feel as encapsulated in its Green Vision but is the second largest town in East Hampshire and will effectively double in size over the next 20-25 years following the departure of REME garrison and the disposal of Bordon Camp in 2015.

In 2000 as a result of listening to our local Community and their elected councillors the previous Boundary Commission decided that Whitehill and Bordon's 3 District Council seats elected by a multi-member system should be replaced by 5 District Councillors each with their own ward based on and named after distinct communities and historical geography within the town. Each ward was also served by 3 Town Councillors providing 15 Town Council seats in total. Although there has been some minor confusion at elections caused by untidy internal boundaries between wards - notably Chase and Walldown and Chase and Deadwater (we address these as part of revised more logical ward boundaries in this submission) the system has worked very well.

Each ward has its own historic identity. Residents generally know which ward they live in, that they have their own specific District Councillor and 3 Town Councillors to represent them and to go to for case work. The link between the Councillor and the specific geographic area and historic communities they represent is a very strong one. Each elected member knows their ward communities and raise issues for their ward area as well as the town as a whole. In turn each councillor is directly accountable to residents in their specific ward area.

To abandon the 5 historic wards in Whitehill & Bordon or move back to multi-member system will break this important democratic link in terms of representation and accountability. It will cause voter confusion in terms of historic ward names and community boundaries. The proposal to retain some historic wards in Whitehill Parish whilst combining others into a super - multimember ward with historically inaccurate ward names (Walldown cannot for example be part of Hogmoor), and combining three totally separate communities - Whitehill (Walldown) with Blackmoor Village and even more controversially Greatham Village is both illogical and nonsensical and will prove utterly confusing to the electorate.

Whitehill District and Town Councillors wish to retain their 5 single member district wards, the ward boundaries for parish elections being identical and contiguous to the district wards as they are at present. It is accepted however, that the internal boundaries of the wards will have to change and expand to reflect the growth in population and to iron out historical anomalies and inaccuracies between wards where their boundaries interface in order to better reflect the historic areas and communities that each ward represents.

Historic wards, strong Communities and Place-shaping

Place shaping and retention of the town's historic communities and identity is key to the successful regeneration of our town as it enters its next chapter.

Whitehill Parish is divided into 5 distinct wards based on its historic communities. These are Whitehill Walldown, Chase, Deadwater, Hogmoor and Pinewood (Village).

Walldown - takes its name from the Walldown Earthwork (scheduled ancient monument) and the first evidence of an Iron Age defensive settlement on Whitehill. The Hill has been used in perpetuity since the dawn of time evidenced by its Mesolithic (hunter-gatherer) flaking floor, later Iron Age, possible Roman and Mediaeval usages. It is thought it could have been later used as a Norman Mott, and English Civil War defences before being used in the Boer War and First World War for the practice of trench warfare, by the Second World War it had become a redoubt. It is now part of the local nature reserve although its banks and ditches extended much further and was lost under subsequent development. The name Whitehill derived from the Anglo Saxon Whitstige refers to a topographical landscape feature that literally "stands-up" over the surrounding gently undulating plain of Woolmer Forest. In his 1779 work 'the natural history and antiquities of Selborne'. (Which at that time included Whitehill) the famous forfather of natural history the reverend Gilbert White says Walldown is one of two pre-eminences that tower over Woolmer Forest" he also mentions that every year on the feast of St Barnabus (the old Summer Solstice) a bower was constructed a practice which White considered "to go back into antiquity". This custom has been resurrected and is now an annual event for the people of Walldown and Whitehill.

Walldown Ward is clearly defined as being east of the A325 (Petersfield Road) and based around the Iron Age Hillfort of Walldown, including Whitehill Village that grew up much later with the arrival of the turnpike (now A325) in the 18th and 19th centuries. It includes most of but confusingly not all of the hamlet of Hollywater. Hollywater is first referred to in 1215 as "la holy watre juxta Euley Brigge". - the holy water next to Eveley bridge. The area contains many springs and would have been considered a very sacred place - the practice of baptism was still conducted here into the early 20th century. Hollywater which is a shrunken mediaeval village has always been part of Whitehill, Walldown ward but retains its own identity it is described as Whitehill's forgotten hamlet and has been the subject on recent books. It has a strong sense of community and strong links with residents in Walldown Road and the Whitehill Park end of Liphook Road. It even has its own pub the Royal Oak.

Walldown ward has also historically included most of but strangely not all of the new 1980s/1990s development between Whitehill Village and Conde Way. Conde Way is taken to be the dividing line between the two communities of Whitehill and Bordon. Around 3/4 of this 1980s development was allocated to Walldown with the remaining 1/4 going to Chase Ward in 2000, extending its historic boundary from Bordon over Conde Way into Whitehill, presumably to ensure a more equitable balance in voting numbers. The need for this has been superseded by the growth of the town and the requirement for each ward to enlarge its number of electors to compensate for the expansion in housing figures. It is therefore proposed that Walldown Ward is extended its natural boundary of Conde Way to absorb the entire community of Whitehill. Whitehill Village plus the newer 1980s area of housing locally referred to as the Dukes - all being named after various Ducal titles.

Chase - Chase ward is named after the open heathy area of Royal Woolmer Hunting Forest between Whitehill and Bordon used by Mediaeval Kings to pursue quarry species of deer and wild boar. It has a densely populated community that has grown up around the Chase - now Acorn Healing Centre (including lands that were bequeathed for the building of Chase Hospital) and the existing town centre - Forest Centre. It includes residential areas around the Forest Shopping Centre, the Forest Community Centre, Local Surgeries and Nursing Homes, Bordon Library and St Marks Community shared Church as well as Bordon High Street and the south side of Chalet Hill. The Chase community extends from Conde Way in the South, to its northern boundary of Chalet Hill from east of High Street (A325) to the existing town centre (Forest Centre). In order to balance voter numbers it has previously included areas in Whitehill south of Conde Way such as Roxborough, Grafton Close, York Close and Wellington Avenue which sit more logically in Whitehill Walldown. The strange dividing lines between Chase and Walldown wards have often caused voter confusion given that the two wards vote at different polling stations. Walldown electors voting at Whitehill Village Hall and Chase electors at the Forest Community Centre. It has also resulted in Chase ward confusingly being divided into Chase 1 and 2 to include 80s housing in Whitehill south of Conde Way (more logically in Whitehill Walldown) as well as its historic community described above in Chase 2 - Bordon. In one case the dividing line between Walldown and Chase

actually runs down the same side of the road causing much confusion for the candidates never mind the electors.

Deadwater - may not be the most attractive sounding name for a ward or a settlement but it is historic. It is named after the historic river Deadwater (a tributary to the River Wey) and based around the community that had grown up around the river, its water meadows, Deadwater Farm and Deadwater (Chalet) Hill. Writing at the turn of the 20th century author of Hampshire Days - WH Hudson describes the Deadwater as "aptly named". He could not be more wrong for it take its name from its slow moving nature. It is according to the EA one of the most biodiverse rivers in Hampshire and includes many rare and nationally scarce species of fish - brook lamprey, millers thumb, stone loach and brown trout (a clean water indicator) as well as wolverines and kingfishers. It's associated wildlife corridor between Whitehill and Bordon is called the Deadwater Valley and is now a highly valued local nature reserve, managed by the Deadwater Valley Trust on behalf of Whitehill Town Council. Despite its unfortunate historic title the name Deadwater has very many positive associations in terms of its geographic area and sense of community. Candidates have always had to be careful when canvassing to refer to the area by its proposer name, as residents will often angrily assert that they live in Deadwater not Bordon, the later being the "Army Camp on the hill".

EHDC proposals will see logical changes to the geographical area of Deadwater Ward in order to accommodate changes in Chase ward and to absorb the housing east of the A325 (Camp Road) currently in Pinewood but more logically in Deadwater. The proposal will use the strongly defined dividing line of Conde Way / Hollybrooke Park Road to return Deadwater Ward to its settlement along the river bank - all housing east of Hollybrooke Park. It takes in all the housing on Deadwater (Chalet Hill) that have erroneously been part of Pinewood Ward and if the proposal is accepted will now extend to take in all the housing east of the A325 along the ridgeway of Deadwater Hill (overlooking the Deadwater valley and the Bordon Inclosure) to Wellington Gate north of Firestation Crossroads.

Hogmoor - based on the community west of Petersfield Rd (A325) that has grown up on the west of the A325 around the Hogmoor Inclosure, Hogmoor Road and the Blackmoor / Oakhanger edge of Town. Hogmoor is a distinctive area of Whitehill, sometimes times known as "the Blackmoor side of town". It has its own very strong sense of community including its own neighbourhood watch group and many of its children attend St Matthew's (CofE aided) Primary School. There have been people living in the Hogmoor area since the Bronze Age as evidenced by a number of Bronze Age roundbarrows -high status burial mounds (territorial markers) including two outside Whitehill Village Hall and the famous Hogmoor Hoard of ritually broken high status Bronze Age swords and spears thrown into Hog Moor (a sacred mere or marshy pool). The ward is bounded by the A325 to the west, upto and including Hogmoor Road to the east, the top of Station Road / Oakhanger Lane and Budds Lane to the north, and Drift Road to the South. The community is separate to that of Blackmoor Village and finishes after Bracken Lane and the house of Gunsite (a former AA Gun) in Drift Road, St Matthew's School being firmly in Blackmoor and there fore Selborne Parish. EHDC recommend that the houses in Drift Road upto and including Bracken Lane are included in Hogmoor ward as hey are logically part of Whitehill, Hogmoor. In addition that Plantation Way the remaining houses in Eveley Close and sparse houses off Firgrove Rd opposite the Golf Course are also logically included in Whitehill, Hogmoor.

Pinewood - is based on the 1990s development of Pinewood Village to the west of the A325 on the site of former Army housing, but in order to make-up numbers somewhat confusingly it has historically included houses on Deadwater (Chalet) Hill, and the MoD housing and ribbon development to the east of the A325 which should logically be part of Deadwater ward. This area will bear the brunt of new development including 500 new homes at Louisberg and 130 homes at former Havannah Officers Mess. To absorb this and ensure a more logical and equitable distribution of voters EHDC and Whitehill Councillors at every level propose that Pinewood Ward becomes coterminous with its natural boundary of Pinewood Village along the west of the A325, with former MoD housing at St Lucia and trenchard, Deadwater (Chalet) Hill and Royal Drive, Quebec Park and Canada Way / Maple Leaf Drive all to the east of the A325 logically becoming part of Deadwater ward.

Problems with Boundary Commission Proposals for Whitehill Parish (Whitehill & Bordon)

Whitehill and Bordon District and Town Councillors are strongly opposed to the Boundary Commissions latest proposals.

1. The abolition of single member wards to include one super large and nonsensical multi-member Hogmoor ward.
2. The abolition of two historic wards serving two distinct and historic communities named after historic areas of the town **Whitehill**, **Walldown** drawn from the Walldown Earthwork (Iron Age Hill Fort and including the old Whitehill Village and much of the Hamlet of Hollywater and **Whitehill Deadwater**, which is named after the historic hamlet of Deadwater from the top of Deadwater Hill (Chalet Hill) along the A325 to the settlement that

has evolved around the Deadwater (River) Valley. Deadwater is the settlement at the central and northern end of town and is separately identified both from Pinewood Village and former Bordon Army Camp on the West side of the A325. It is separate from Whitehill Chase being more closely associated with Deadwater Hill and the Deadwater Valley to the East and is separate from Walldown and Holly (or Holy) Water Hamlet in the south on the East of the A325. Whitehill Walldown and Whitehill Deadwater are both historic areas of Whitehill Parish and Whitehill & Bordon Town. They have their own distinct communities and should be retained both in their historic names and their correct geographical boundaries. The former issue has been addressed, the latter is addressed as part of EHDC's proposals (see below).

3. The unnecessary expansion of Hogmoor Ward from its historic ward boundaries always on the West of the A325 (Petersfield Rd / High Street) to create a super-sized multi-member ward absorbing historic Whitehill Walldown, Blackmoor and the neighbouring village of Greatham. The unnecessary expansion of Hogmoor Ward from its historic boundaries always on the West of the A325 into the creation of an illogical super-sized multi-member ward now including the distinct and separate community of Whitehill, Walldown who's boundary has always run along the East side of the A325 (Petersfield Rd). Inclusion of Walldown into this super size multi member Hogmoor ward is not only historically incorrect in terms of our local community but confusing to our electorate who all familiar with which historic parts of town they live in as reflected by our existing ward names. Walldown is its own community including the whole of Whitehill Village who live on the White Hill ("white" due to the bleached sand), it includes the 1980s / 90s development between Whitehall Village and Conde Way (named after various Dukes), most of the historic mediaeval hamlet of Hollywater and Longmoor Camp in the south of Whitehill Parish. It includes the vast uninhabited area of Woolmer Forest (aka MoD Longmoor Ranges) which is SPA heathland and lies within the South Downs National Park.

4. Opposition to the inclusion of Blackmoor Village into Whitehill Hogmoor

Whitehill Councillors oppose the inclusion of Blackmoor into Whitehill Hogmoor Ward. Hogmoor Ward which historically lies to the west of the A325 has its own boundaries based on historic communities (see above) and more than enough numbers in terms of electors.

The village of Blackmoor was created from a country hamlet in the late 1860s by the First Earl of Selborne Roundell Palmer, Attorney General in Gladstone's Government. He commissioned Alfred Waterhouse - Architect of the Natural History Museum in South Kensington, London to build the new (model) village of Blackmoor, including the Church, Blackmoor House the school and the vicarage in the local Bargate stone. It is a Conservation Area and along with Blackmoor Estate forms a distinct village separate from the town of Whitehill & Bordon. It's communities outlook and aspirations are solidly rural and it looks closely to its association with the surrounding villages of Selborne, Liss and Greatham. It even has a separate Liss postal address and a separate GU33 Liss postcode.

5. Erroneous inclusion of Greatham Village into Whitehill Hogmoor

Whitehill councillors and their Greatham counterparts are wholly opposed to the inclusion of Greatham in to Whitehill Hogmoor Ward.

Whitehill & Bordon is a growing town as has its own separate identity and aspirations which are quite different from that of Greatham which is well over a two miles away from Whitehill's southern settlement boundary of Liphook Road and separated by the great expanse of historic heathland (MoD Longmoor Ranges) which contain the last vestiges of the Ancient Royal Hunting Forest of Woolmer aka Woolmer Forest.

The wider Whitehill Parish which includes what is left of Woolmer Forest is bounded by no less than 7 villages including Headley to the North, Blackmoor (in Selborne Parish) to the West, Greatham and Liss to the South, Rogate (in West Sussex) and Passfield (in Bramshott & Liphook Parish) to the South East and Lindford in the East / North East. All these form separate (mostly rural) communities in their own right and have little in common with Whitehill & Bordon as a town, which has its own strong sense of history and identity. Where as the village of Lindford (across the River Wey) has been included in the Whitehill, Bordon and Lindford County Division it is atleast very close to Whitehill & Bordon sharing manly facilities despite the fact it has its own separate identity and Parish Council. Under the Boundary Commission's current proposals Lindford rightly remains a separate village with its own Parish Council and District Councillor, Greatham which is that much further away from Whitehill and Bordon and has nothing in common with the town is bizarrely included in a new Whitehill, Hogmoor super-ward.

The two houses currently included in Walldown Ward that lie on Longmoor Rd Greatham are effectively part of greatham Village and should be included in Greatham's ward boundaries for the purpose of District and Parish elections. Whitehill Councillors however, remain totally and implacably opposed to combining Greatham Village with Whitehill.

EHDC PROPOSALS TO THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION

EHDC offer alternative proposals for Whitehill Parish / Whitehill & Bordon Town to the Boundary Commission. These are based on the existing single member wards and the historic communities they represent, whilst altering the ward boundaries where required to address existing anomalies and to take into account current and projected increases in the towns population.

We are proposing the following principles :-

1. Retention of Single member Wards - Single member wards are preferred to Multi-member wards in Whitehill & Bordon

It is proposed that Whitehill Parish / Whitehill and Bordon town retain all its single member wards to protect and enhance the strong geographic link between councillors and their distinct wards each of which represents distinct areas of the town. Each ward currently has 3 town councillors and 1 District Councillor directly accountable to the distinct geographical communities they represent. It has been recently agreed to retain the County Division - the 5 Whitehill wards plus Lindford go to make the County Division of Whitehill, Bordon and Lindford. In 2000 Whitehill Councillors fought hard to make Whitehill and Bordon one District geographical entity rather than be separated in two each with their own County Councillor and at the same time for Whitehill Parish to be warded for the first time to reflect the distinct geographical communities at District and Parish level. In 2000 Whitehill and Bordon District and Town Councillors lobbied hard to ensure more elected representatives were provided reflecting the significant growth in the town's population and finally shift away from a multi-member system to be warded for the first time. The wards were designed to reflect historic areas of town each with their own communities and historic identities.

2. Coterminosity between District and Parish Wards - All WTC wards to be coterminous with EHDC wards - 3 Town Councillors per ward as they are at present. This system is easily understood by the electorate who have one District Councillor and three Town Councillors to go to for each dipstick geographic area of town.

In addition we are proposing the following changes in order to :

- accommodate significant development and regeneration within the town
- correct previous anomalies between ward boundaries
- better reflect ward boundaries with their distinct historic communities
- ensure a more equitable balance of numbers in terms of electors

Pinewood

Will lose all the lands to the east of the A325 to accommodate new housing
And will include everything from the 500 new homes at Louisberg, the 135 homes at Havannah and most of the Town Centre the boundary was to be Budds Lane but will now follow the line of the uncovered Oxney Stream Basically if we cannot put the whole of the development in Hogmoor or Pinewood as it brings which ever ward to over 3000 which is too unwieldy and out of kilter with average ward numbers. This will be apparent when I send you the report.

Deadwater

Deadwater ward retains its historic lands inc north side of Deadwater Hill (Chalet Hill) / Mill Chase Lane and along the River east of Conde Way / Hollybrooke Park Rd
So Marsh, Britannia, Waterman and Mercury Closes

But importantly will lose the largely social housing of Apollo Drive area to Chase Ward and now extend North to encompass all the housing East of the A325 from Chalet Hill / Deadwater Hill to Firestation Crossroads inc Maple Leaf, Quebec, St Lucia, Trenchard, Royal Drive and St Lucia Lodge

The inclusion of the existing and new housing east of the A325 will greatly improve the ward's historic disadvantaged demographic and improve voter turn out at elections.

Chase

Chase becomes more strongly defined in terms of its community and historic area of town around the Chase (an area of open land in Woolmer Hunting Forest) and densely populated communities that have grown up around Chase Hospital and old town centre (Forest Centre).

It's boundaries become Conde way and Hollybrooke Park Rd to the south and east, east of the A325 (High Street) in the west and remains the south side Chalet Hill.

It therefore loses its small area of land in Whitehill south of Conde Way to Walldown which needs to take these on to stay viable, thus ending constant confusion as to where Walldown ends and Chase begins.

Walldown

Walldown which is the area around the original settlement of the Walldown earthwork retains its historic area of Walldown, Whitehill Village and Hollywater (see logical change below) and extends to include remaining areas of the 1980s/90s development between Whitehill Village and Conde Way. Logically picking up Wellington, York but also Roxborough and Grafton, to create a strong and more logical ward boundary with Chase along Code Way.

Walldown extends to include the whole of Hollywater hamlet currently a few houses for some reason in Deadwater. An amended ward name change to Whitehill Walldown and Hollywater is proposed to reflect this.

It retains Longmoor Camp which is in Whitehill Parish (currently only a handful of voters) but loses the two houses up Longmoor Road that should always have logically been in Greatham ward.

We propose Greatham ward is combined with Liss / Liss Forest as it has nothing to do with Whitehill and Bordon historically and has always looked south to Liss. Detangling Greatham from Whitehill is also supported by Greatham Ward member Cllr Keith Budden.

Hogmoor

We are in total opposition to the BC's proposals that Hogmoor does not extend over the wrong side of the A325 to make one super-sized and incongruous multimember ward absorbing Whitehill Walldown and Hollywater Blackmoor and Greatham as the BC suggest as this runs roughshod over existing distinctive communities and their historic ward boundaries.

Instead we proposed Hogmoor retains its historic ward boundaries to reflect the community it represents which has always been to the west of the A325 (Petersfield Rd and High Street).

Hogmoor does not absorb the separate village of Blackmoor which has a Liss postcode and is currently part of Selborne Parish, but it does absorb those parts of Whitehill which for some reason have anomalously been put in Selborne ward. These include Drift Road, Bracken Lane and Gunsite up to St Mathews School (all of which are within the GU35 postcode in any case), those parts of Firgrove, Eveley and Plantation Way that should logically be in Hogmoor Ward not Selborne. These logical amendments to Hogmoor's southern boundary are supported by Cllr David Ashcroft as ward councillor for Selborne who is also opposed to Blackmoor Village being absorbed into Hogmoor.

Hogmoor's western boundary remains unchanged. Its Northern boundary now follows its correct line of ending at the T Junction between Hogmoor Rd and Station Rd / Oakhanger Lane. It includes land to the south of Budds Lane. Following the line of the uncovered Oxney Stream (formerly Oxney Drain) and absorbing new development at Phase 1A of TC

Whitehill, Walldown Ward

Whitehill Walldown is the historic village of Whitehill based around the Walldown earthwork (the Iron Age Hill Fort which built on the White Hill has been used throughout history to the present). It is an area mentioned by grandfather of natural history and local historian Gilbert White in his famous 1779 work Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne.

Greatham

Proposal : Greatham Village should not be included in Whitehill but two houses on Longmoor Rd should be removed from Whitehill, Walldown ward and placed in Greatham.

The argument about not including Whitehill Walldown with the village of Greatham and subsuming it into a super multi-member ward of Hogmoor, Blackmoor and Greatham has already been strongly made. The two houses on Longmoor Road currently in Whitehill, Walldown ward have nothing in common with Whitehill and Bordon despite being on the southern extremity of the wider Whitehill Parish. They are ostensibly part of Greatham Village and should be included in Greatham ward whether that remains separate or is combined with its natural leanings towards Liss and Liss Forest to the south.

Hollywater

*Proposal : that Hollywater should be placed entirely in Walldown ward and the ward renamed **Whitehill Walldown and Hollywater** to reflect this change.*

The ward historically includes most but not all of the hamlet of Hollywater. It is proposed that Walldown ward extends to take in the whole of Hollywater in Whitehill Parish which currently sits in Deadwater ward down to the bridge where the settlement ends. A new ward name of Whitehill Walldown and Hollywater is proposed to reflect this change.

Residential Development between Whitehill Village and Conde Way.

Proposal: to increase Walldown ward to reflect the town's population growth to incorporate the remaining residential roads named after Dukes that are currently in Chase Ward to form a logical and sensible ward boundary along Conde Way. Walldown Ward to now include the following roads: the few homes in Kent Road currently in Chase Ward, Wellington Avenue, York Close, Argyle Close, Roxborough Close, the remainder of Athol Rd not currently in Walldown and Grafton Close.

Residential development between Whitehill Village and Conde Way with roads and estates named after various Dukes have historically been shared between Walldown and Chase wards. To rectify baffling anomalies between these ward boundaries and to reflect the growing population it has been deemed necessary to increase the population and size of Walldown ward to include all those former areas of Chase ward south of Conde Way. The road is widely accepted as the dividing line between Whitehill and Bordon and forms a logical ward boundary that will be easily understood by electors and councillors.

Whitehill Chase Ward

Proposal : To remove confusion over ward boundaries with Walldown and Deadwater Wards and phase out the unnecessary concept Chase 1 and 2 Using the strong obvious boundary of Conde Way / HollyBrook Park Road (all part of the same road), Whitehill Chase to relinquish land south of Conde Way to accommodate the additional electors required to make Walldown Ward viable and to acquire housing west of Hollybrooke Park Road in Deadwater Ward. This to form a natural high density ward based around the historic area of Whitehill Chase bounded by the A325 (High Street) to the West, retaining its existing boundary of Chalet (Deadwater Hill) to the North and a new strong boundary of Conde Way / Hollybrooke Park Road to its south and west. This more accurately reflects the historic areas of Chase and the community of Deadwater after which the wards are named.

The absorption of Apollo Drive and surrounding area into Chase Ward will better integrate the population in terms of its economic and social demographics. The new well defined Chase ward boundaries will therefore become more logical finally dispelling current confusion along the interface of ward boundaries to forming a strong and unified single community of medium - high density housing based around the Chase and the existing town centre (Forest Centre).

Whitehill Deadwater Ward

Proposal : to move south relinquishing high density areas around the Forest Centre to accommodate an expanding Chase Ward in order to rectify anomalies and more accurately reflecting its historic boundaries along the River Deadwater, as with Walldown Ward using Conde Way - Hollybrooke park Drive as a strong natural and logical ward boundary.

To move north to encompass all the residential development between Chalet (Deadwater) Hill on the east of the A325 (Camp Rd) to and including Royal Drive on the northern entrance of town.

Deadwater along with Pinewood wards have been notorious in their low turnouts over the years and have suffered from an apathetic reputation as a result.

It is expected that the inclusion of more private family homes within Deadwater ward will positively remedy its historic low turnouts at elections and better integrate all sections of the local community.

The proposal is for Deadwater ward to retain its historic areas along the River Deadwater shifting the confusing boundary with Chase Ward to a new natural boundary to include all houses south of the natural boundary of Conde Way - Hollybrooke Park Road.

The ward retains its residential homes from the T junction with Chalet (Deadwater) Hill to include all lands in the former hamlet of Deadwater down to Headley Mill and the River Wey.

This will include the 150 homes expected on the old Mill Chase School site when the Academy moves to its new location in Budds Lane in 2019.

Deadwater ward will preserve its ward boundary with Whitehill Chase to include all the housing to the North of Chalet (Deadwater) Hill / Mill Chase Road.

In order to accommodate major growth in Pinewood ward, it is proposed Deadwater ward now includes the residential areas currently in Pinewood Ward on the East of the A325, to create a more logical and historically accurate ward boundary.

There are currently 350 MoD properties on St Lucia and Trenchard, only 50 are currently occupied. Of the 300 currently empty these are expected to be filled with Army overspill from Aldershot super-garrison, Naval overspill from Portsmouth and Airforce service families from RAF Odiham and RAF Oakhanger. It is expected that these estates will in the future be redeveloped like Quebec Barracks now Quebec park and the former Canada Hutments - now Mapleleaf Drive and Canada Way.

An additional 100 homes (180) electors from the new development of Quebec Park have been included.

The name *Deadwater* is historic and is derived from the slow moving River (a tributary of the Wey) and the historic farms and communities that grew up around the Deadwater Valley. The area is served but the well loved Deadwater Valley Local Nature Reserve. The hamlet Deadwater is separate and different from the hamlet of Hollywater (derived from Holy Water) which lies to its immediate south. Historic identity is essential to the place-shaping of the town.

Whitehill Hogmoor

Proposal : to retain Whitehill, Hogmoor Ward along its existing ward boundaries on the west of the A325 whilst logically absorbing the part of Drift Rd, Eveley Close, Firgrove Rd and Plantation Way that are currently illogically in Selborne Parish despite being part of the Whitehill and Bordon community and towns postcode.

Not to include Blackmoor Village which is its own separate entity and not part of Whitehill and Bordon.

Not to include Whitehill Walldown in a supersized, multi member and historically inaccurate new Hogmoor Ward - Walldown is the historic settlement on the east of the A325, including Longmoor and the last vestiges of the Mediaeval Hunting forest of Woolmer (Woolmer Forest), Hogmoor occupies the lands to the West of the A325 not the East.

To redefine the northern boundary with Pinewood ward using the natural boundary of Station Road / Oakhanger Lane and the natural line of the Oxney Moss stream to ensure better parity between both wards given the projected increase in housing numbers to 2023.

It is recognised that housing numbers will increase in Whitehill Hogmoor Ward including 59 units(106.2 electors) at Moorlands in Hogmoor Road, and 172 homes (309.6) electors in Phase 1 A by 2022.

Support for logical absorption of certain roads currently in Selborne Ward into Whitehill Hogmoor.

Councillors strongly support the inclusion of certain roads anomalously placed in the current Selborne ward although they more logically sit in Whitehill Hogmoor. These are Plantation Way and the small sections of Eveley Close and Firgrove Rd currently in Selborne Ward and the southern section of Drift Road up to St Matthew's School which is logically part of Whitehill, Hogmoor, including Bracken Lane on the East side of Drift Rd and the property "Gunsite" to the West.

Pinewood Ward

Pinewood Ward is going to grow exponentially with the loss of the Bordon Garrison. Traditionally the ward has suffered from the lowest turn outs in the District due to a largely transient MoD population. This will improve greatly with increased number of private family homes. These include 500 new homes (900 electors) at Louisberg, 130 new homes at Havana Officer Mess (80 at 4.1 and 50 at 4.2) giving an average of 234 electors and 177 flats at Town Centre phase 1 due by 2019/20 resulting in an additional 318.6 electors.

The projected house building is so great that in order to avoid the creation of an unwieldy ward in terms of population it is proposed that Pinewood withdraws to its natural boundary on the west side of the A325. Relinquishing all land to East of the A325 (Camp Road) from Chalet (Deadwater Hill) to Royal Drive at the Northern most edge of town - these are proposed to now become part of Deadwater Ward.

The southern boundary of Pinewood continues to run along Station Road but follows the natural boundary of Oxney Moss Stream (formerly Oxney Drain) to ensure bitter parity between the wards in terms of housing numbers and electors.

The final projected figures for each Whitehill Ward as are follows

Whitehill Walldown (and Hollywater) - 2164
Whitehill Chase - 2568
Whitehill Deadwater - 2229
Whitehill Hogmoor - 2233
Whitehill Pinewood - 2160

(Carew/Silvester/Waterhouse - 30.11.17/EHDC BC Response/Whitehill)

Whitehill, Bordon and Lindford Division
District and Town Councillor - Whitehill, Walldown

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