Local organisation submissions to the Woking Borough Council
electoral review

This PDF document contains submissions from local organisations.

Some versions of Adobe allow the viewer to move quickly between
bookmarks.

Click on the submission you would like to view. If you are not taken to that
page, please scroll through the document.
Woking District

Personal Details:

Name: Tony Kremer
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Horsell Residents' Association

Comment text:

Horsell is a fine example of a cohesive and thriving community, supported by a great Residents' Association (I am on the Committee). I support proposals that keep Horsell together.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded
Knaphill Residents' Association

Date: 01 October 2014

Review Officer
Woking Review
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG

Dear Sir,

New electoral arrangements for Woking Borough Council

Following receipt of your draft recommendations I, on behalf of Knaphill Residents Association, would like to make the following comments. I will start by stating that the Association agreed with the proposals submitted by Woking Borough Council to the Commission as part of the initial public consultation and find it difficult to understand why the Commission has changed some of the boundaries.

Let me start with the north of the Ward and in particular Chobham Road that becomes Guildford Road. It is difficult to understand why land to the north of Carthouse Lane is not part of Chobham/Surrey Heath but this exercise is not considering changes to the Borough boundary. The Residents' Association believe that it is important that land to the west and north that forms the boundary with Surrey Heath should be in Knaphill and one key reasons for this position is that it is the people of Knaphill, with their elected representatives, who are concerned about the protection of the Green Belt that separates the two distinct areas. This land is 'in our backyard' and it is the people of Knaphill who have defended this land from development. You will see from the map that there is a large property just to the south of Carthouse Lane, close to the junction of Carthouse Lane and Chobham Road. The name of this property is Knaphill Manor yet you propose for it to be outside the Ward. I understand the Commission's concern with the size of a Ward from a population point but this change has a marginal impact on the total electorate of the Ward. More important is the land and the people working with their locally elected Councillors.

Moving to the South East of the Ward.

The changes you propose to those proposed by Woking Borough Council are difficult to understand. The major employment area in our Ward is the Lansbury Estate and there are close links between the Knaphill retail area and those employed on the Lansbury Estate but you plan to relocate the estate in St. Johns without any clear explanation. Secondly Northwood Avenue and Southwood Avenue are historically linked to Knaphill and you propose to separate them, again without any explanation. St. John's school is currently in Knaphill but we understood the rational for Woking Borough Council placing the School in St. Johns and if you examined the catchment area of pupils this made sense but you propose to retain it in Knaphill, again without an explanation. As a residents' association we understand the need to distribute the electorate evenly but this should not be at the expense of strong links with streets and industrial estates.

Accepting that what the Association is suggesting for the South East of the Ward will significantly
Knaphill Residents' Association

Date: 01 October 2014

increase the size of the electorate we would suggest that the Commission revisits the changes it introduced to the boundary between Knaphill and Goldsworth Park.

It is important that local people relate to their Ward otherwise they will not participate in local elections. For people to participate the boundaries have to have meaning.

Yours faithfully,

Philip Stubbs
Secretary to Knaphill Residents’ Association
Further to my e-mail submission below, at the AGM of The Grove Area Ltd residents association last night the membership unanimously agreed with the individual submission below.

Thank you

David Reeve
Chairman
The Grove Area Ltd

I write re proposed changes to the district ward re The Grove and Ferndale Road.
With regret, I am not in favour with the proposal that The Grove and Ferndale Road be included in Sheerwater.

The following considerations support this view: factors which you may not have been aware of when formulating your proposal.

1. There is no common communality of interests between the The Grove and Ferndale Road ("2 Roads") and Sheerwater. The identities are totally different. We are cut off at the first instance by the main A320 which links with the M25. There is a direct bus link no 48 with Horsell Village (less than 1 mile away) 100 metres, via Brewery Road from The Grove: to get to Sheerwater the nearest bus link is 400 metres away (no 446), and a longer journey.

2. Many people in the 2 Roads shop in Horsell Village. They appreciate independent shops, restaurants and public houses, and GP practices very close to the Village.

3. The Grove Area Ltd (membership 100 households plus) is the popular and effective residents association for voters living in the 2 Roads (and also Orchard Drive, Wheatsheaf Close and other local...
minor roads which you propose to retain in Horsell Ward).

4. The Grove Area Ltd enjoys close links with Horsell Residents Association which also has strong membership in the 2 Roads. The aims of the two residents associations are different but complimentary.

5. Horsell Care (please see website), linked with Surrey Community Transport, has volunteers (and clients) resident in the 2 Roads.

6. The 2 Roads are conservation areas. I am not aware of this in other areas of Sheerwater.

7. Geographically, the Basingstoke Canal (also it could be argued the A320) separates Woking Town Centre from Horsell. Thus there is a strong geographical reason for keeping the 2 Roads within Horsell ward).

If the 2 Roads were to be included in Sheerwater it is difficult to see (bearing in mind the relatively small number of voters in the 2 Roads compared with the rest of the proposed Sheerwater ward) how local democracy, effectiveness and accountability could be enacted and effective re residents in the 2 Roads.

I submit the above in an individual capacity though a Director of The Grove Area Ltd and a volunteer for Horsell Care.

David Reeve
Woking District

Personal Details:

Name: Mal Foster
E-mail: 
Postcode: 
Organisation Name: The Knaphillian

Comment text:

Knaphill's southern most boundary should end at the Basingstoke Canal between Hermitage Road and Bagshot. This historically part of Knaphill and has always been recognised as being so. The home of Knaphill Football Club should also be in Knaphill. Please ensure this happens. It won't affect ward population as no-one live in the are of your proposed encroachment.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded
1st October 2014

The Review Officer [Woking] LGBCE, 76-78 Turnmill Street, London EC1M 5LG

Dear Sir

**Ward Boundary re-organisation – West Byfleet, Surrey**

We are writing on behalf of the West Byfleet Neighbourhood Forum (WBNF) which represents the residents who live in the village of West Byfleet; one of three villages that comes under the umbrella of the Byfleet, West Byfleet and Pyrford Residents’ Association and the Churches Together Organisation. Both these organisations have served our joint communities for many years.

The Boundary Commission has asked the public to follow certain criteria in looking at good ward patterns. A decision had already been made to divide the village into two wards to which WBNF along with local residents and local organisations strongly objected.

It now seems that the Commission has recommended a further split into three wards taking three roads, Hollies Avenue, Woodlands Avenue and Old Avenue into the ward of Sheerwater.

WBNF feel the Commission has not followed its own advice or standards in the case of West Byfleet, in that the Commission’s objective to try and equalise the number of electors that each councillor will represent, has been placed above Community identity and Effective local government.

West Byfleet is recognised by Woking Borough Council as the second major hub of business and industrial employment in the borough after Woking town itself. The village supports four banks, a large health centre, schools and playing fields, churches, many restaurants, a major super market as well as a thriving shopping centre and a small industrial estate. It has a main line rail service direct into Waterloo, London and local buses leave from the village centre. It has its own Business Association. West Byfleet is also used by the residents of Pyrford as they only have a small shopping area. The Parish of West Byfleet will soon be celebrating its centenary anniversary.

WBNF is supported by two local councillors who represent West Byfleet ward. They know, and are known by, the local residents and understand the village. If the village is divided into three wards residents will have to consult with nine Councillors none of whom will have an overall picture of West Byfleet village. Each councillor will also be representing three other separate communities that of Byfleet, Pyrford and Sheerwater. How can this deliver ‘Effective local government?’

For more info and to become a member please visit

www.wbnf.org
Most of the homes built in Hollies Avenue, Woodlands Avenue and Old Avenue have been part of West Byfleet village since before the Second World War. Those in Old Avenue are some of the oldest houses in West Byfleet. The residents who live in these roads totally identify with West Byfleet village - they can walk into the village, use the village’s facilities, transport links and many are members of the various West Byfleet community groups. They have no engagement or linking with Sheerwater. They have a Community Identity with West Byfleet.

WBNF cannot see any advantage to these roads becoming part of a Sheerwater ward. Woking Borough Council are about to build 500 new homes in Sheerwater so the Commissions object to try and equalise the number of electors for each councillor will be lost within the next two or three years.

WBNF fully support Woking council’s request that ‘the Commission takes full account of the views of residents of the affected areas in respect of what they consider to be their local community before finalising its proposal’

WBNF ask that the Boundary Commission urgently review their proposal, which WBNF considers impractical, and return Woodlands Avenue, Hollies Avenue and Old Avenue into either Pyrford Ward or Byfleet and West Byfleet Ward to stop any further split in our community.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Pauline Hedges
Mrs Penelope Hoskyn
Joint Chair WBNF

c.c Rt Hons Jonathan Lord MP

For more info and to become a member please visit

www.wbnf.org
Dear Sirs,

We the Woodham Waye Residents Association are strongly against the boundaries commission proposal to take Woodham out of the Horsell ward and put us with Sheerwater to form a 3 councillor Sheerwater ward.

The basingstoke canal which separates Woodham and Sheerwater can only be crossed at extreme ends is a natural barrier between the two areas. This natural barrier is ideal to mark the boundary line of different the electoral wards.

There is little sense of community or neighbourhood between these areas, whereas Woking Borough Council’s original proposal to link Woodham to the Horsell ward which is an area of similar types of housing and communal interests is a much more sensible idea. The pubs and shops of Horsell are often used by Woodham residents Sheerwater amenities are rarely used.

Every one I have spoken to in Woodham is adamant that we should be a part of the Horsell ward. So please reverse this ill advised link between Woodham and Sheerwater.

Yours faithfully.

Mike Turner.

Chairman.

Woodham Waye Residents Association.