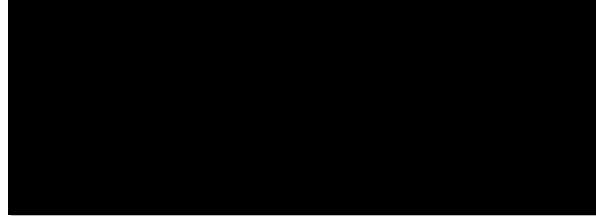
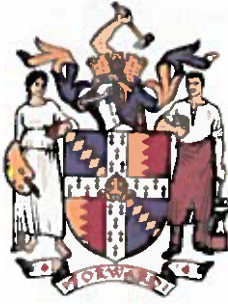
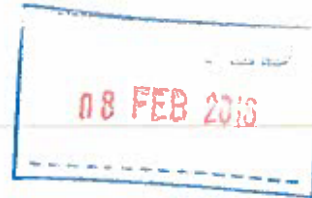


COUNCILLOR ROB POCOCK
LABOUR
SUTTON VESEY WARD



Birmingham and Sutton Coldfield Review
Local Government Boundary Commission for England,
14th Floor Millbank Tower,
London
SW1P 4QP



Friday, 05 February 2016

Dear Sirs

LGBCE Review : Birmingham and Sutton Coldfield

In relation to your current proposals, please find attached a petition signed by 143 individual electors within the existing Sutton Vesey electoral Ward, calling as follows:

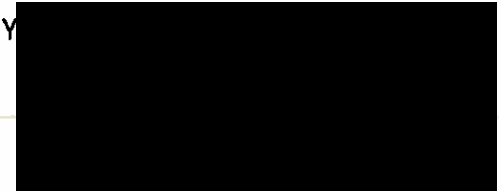
We the undersigned local residents:

- **Support** the proposal to **RETAIN** the existing Sutton-Birmingham boundary, but we:
- **Oppose** splitting of Banners Gate and New Oscott into a separate Ward. Instead we call on the government Commissioners to re-unite our area with the proposed Boldmere Ward and the areas of Sutton Park under the original historic name of the Vesey Ward.

As a City Councillor for this Ward, I welcome your proposal to retain the border between Sutton Coldfield and the remaining areas of Birmingham. However on behalf of substantial public feeling amongst my constituents, we strongly urge that the proposed separate wards of Parkside and Boldmere should be re-united as a single, 2-member Ward. This still meets your criteria on electoral equality, but much better reflects the interests and identities of our local communities. I also note that this re-integration is supported within the full Birmingham Labour Party submission.

- The prime argument for this amendment, is because these areas form a single integrated community. There is very powerful evidence from local residents, that there are strong and active local community ties between the areas.
- For example, residents in Boldmere make much use of the 'Princess Alice' retail park (in Parklands) for large scale anchor stores (Asda hypermarket, M&S etc) and children attend the New Oscott and Banners Gate primary schools (also Parklands). By the same token residents in the area designated Parklands actively frequent the Boldmere local centre as their own principal local high street and its many high quality independent retailers, pubs and restaurants, and community meeting halls such as the Carpenters Hall and Methodist Church Hall. The Boldmere high street Summer Fair and Christmas Lights festivals attract a lot of visitors from Parklands and residents there would in fact see Boldmere as their local 'cultural capital'.
- In effect the two areas are a single united community, and by ensuring they fall within a single (2-member) Ward this allows for more effective local decisionmaking, such as collaboration on the ambitions of the Boldmere Future Partnership where the Banners Gate Neighbourhood Forum (Parklands) has had an important influence

- We also want to retain the historic name 'Sutton Vesey' for this single combined ward, this is to retain the cultural link within Sutton Coldfield to Bishop Vesey who first helped create the Sutton Town in Tudor times. Under your current proposals this historic link is lost.
- Finally we want to re-attach the area of Sutton Park that has been sliced off and given to Four Oaks. This is because local ward funding is used to provide facilities at the gates and surroundings to the Park in that area, and this would be removed if this area of the Park was sliced off and put under Four Oaks Ward. See the map overleaf for details.

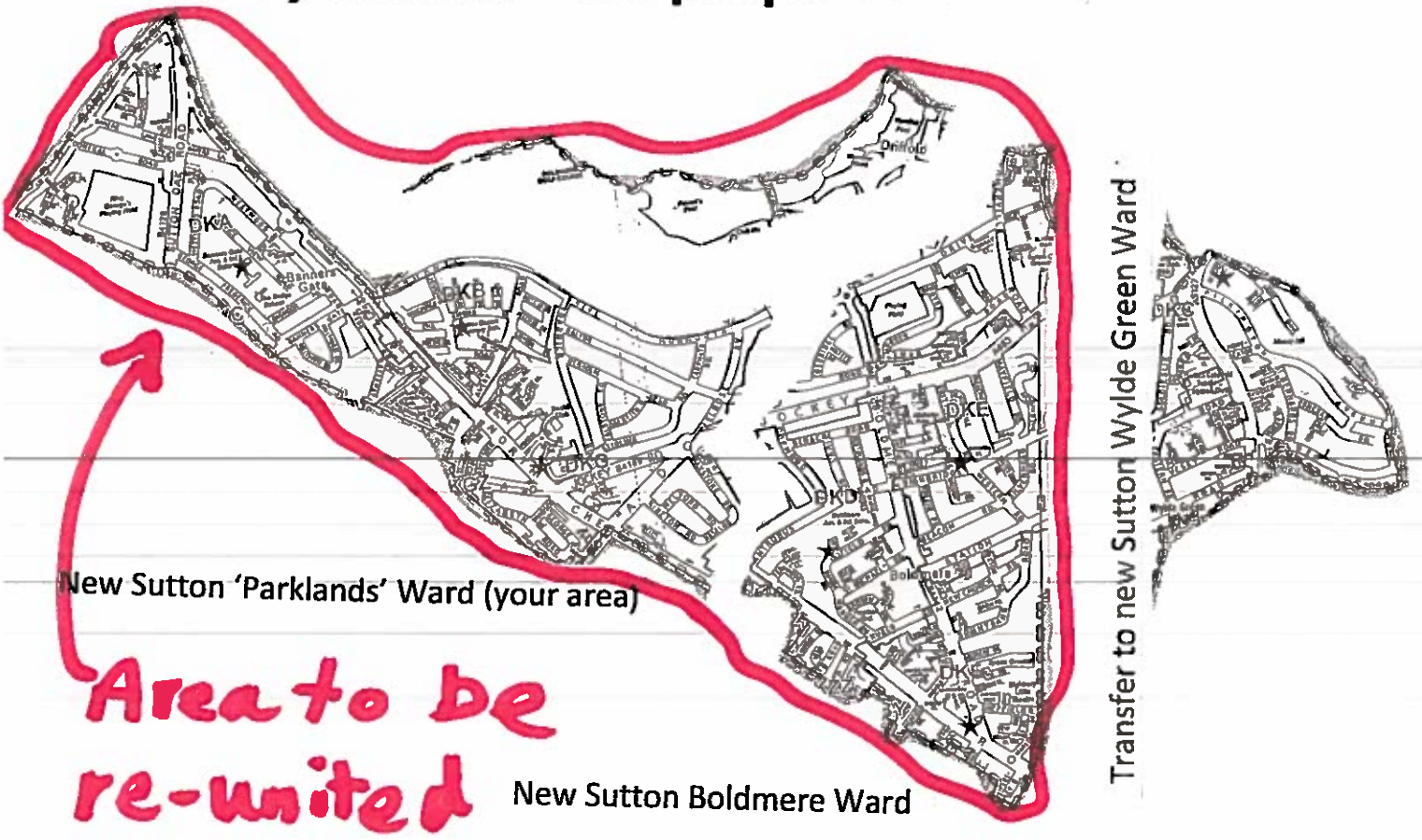


Councillor Rod Pocock

Existing Sutton Vesey Ward



Boundary Commission proposals

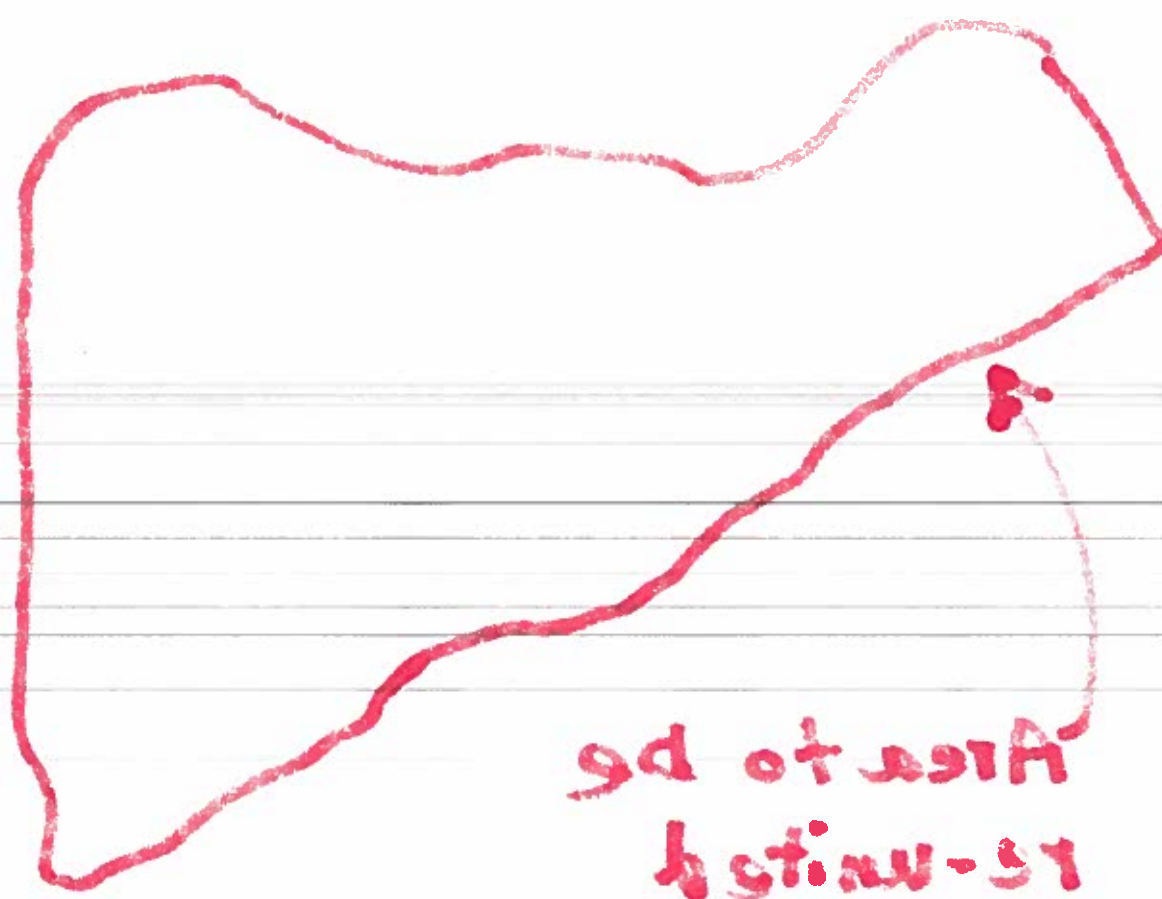


New Sutton 'Parklands' Ward (your area)

Area to be re-united

New Sutton Boldmere Ward

Transfer to new Sutton Wyde Green Ward



Area to be
highlighted

✂ We the undersigned local residents:

- **Support** the proposal to RETAIN the existing Sutton-Birmingham boundary, but we:
- **Oppose** splitting of Banners Gate and New Oscott into a separate Ward. Instead we call on the government Commissioners to re-unite our area with the proposed Boldmere Ward and the areas of Sutton Park under the original historic name of the Vesey Ward.

Name 

Reply ASAP to: FREEPOST RTLL-JRHX-LTLK, Hawthorn Road, Sutton Coldfield, B72 1ES, NO STAMP NEEDED!