
From: Maureen Queen [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 July 2016 20:58
To: reviews <reviews@lgbce.org.uk>
Subject: Eastleigh Borough Council Electoral Review

As the Chair of Hound Parish Council I was given the authority at our last parish council meeting on 13 June 2016 to pass on the deep concerns of the local members over the draft proposals for our area, namely the Bursledon, Hamble and Hound Local Area Committee ward boundary changes.

Cllr House, Leader of Eastleigh Borough Council, informed us at a briefing meeting that the new proposed wards were purely as a result of a numbers game and the intention to have 3 councillors per ward – despite the fact that your guidelines specifically state that consideration should be given to supporting longstanding community affiliations.

In the last review Butlocks Heath Ward was scuttled off to join Hamble – an marriage of convenience that has never worked. Butlocks Heath residents have always felt ‘cast out’ from its natural neighbours and has never had any affiliation to Hamble. I am sure Hamble residents have similar thoughts about the unwanted ‘step-family’ that was thrust upon them. Most elected borough councillors for that ward, being 100% Hamble residents, have paid little attention to Butlocks Heath (apart from pre-election time) and now we find ourselves in an even worse situation with the current draft proposals.

Your current proposal is for there to be 2 ‘manufactured’ wards with 3 councillors for each ward. The locality of Ingleside, part of Netley Abbey, has no links or community affiliation whatsoever with Bursledon – there are no public transport links, the local children do not attend Bursledon schools but those in Netley Abbey and the settlements are divided by open countryside, farmland and ancient woodland.

The other proposal affecting our parish is for Netley Abbey to be linked with Hamble – again we have no community links with Hamble – in fact, we are two very different, separate communities, miles apart in more ways than land miles and each with their own identities.

As an alternative, we propose that it is more logical that we are allowed to have 3 wards with 2 councillors per ward as put forward for Botley and West End wards. This retains the total number of councillors you are seeking to achieve overall but aligns communities with their natural neighbours. The previous arrangement of Butlocks Heath and Hamble did not encourage people to vote and we fear further apathy if residents feel no affiliation with the areas they are being pushed into.

A spreadsheet showing the electorate numbers to support our proposal is attached. We note that the numbers are not uniformly balanced but we are hoping that common sense will prevail.

We understand that Bursledon Parish Council will be voicing similar concerns.

Maureen Queen

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ELECTORAL REVIEW - BURSLEDON, HAMBLE AND HOUND

Polling District	Area	Electorate 2015	Electorate 2021		
<u>Bursledon and Old Netley</u>					
BA1	Bursledon No 1	162	568		
BA2	Bursledon No 2	3270	3467		
BB	Burs Pilands No 2	1269	1340		
BC	Burs Old Netley No 3	628	814		
				5329	6189
<u>Hamble</u>					
BE	Hamble-le-Rice	3674	3704		
				3674	3704
<u>Netley Abbey and Butlocks Heath</u>					
BF	Butlocks Heath	753	967		
BF	Butlocks Heath	87	87		
BG	Ingleside	1098	1238		
BH	Netley Abbey	3197	3241		
				5135	5533

Alternative proposal by Hound Parish Council
29C Station Road, Netley Abbey, Southampton, SO31 5AE