Proposed Boundary Changes in Kensington and Chelsea.

I am writing to object to the proposal to move part of Warwick Road from Abingdon Ward to Holland Ward.

I appreciate that the new developments on this northern part of the road will theoretically bring a large number of extra residents to the area and this proposal is, I imagine, driven by the reasonable wish to equalise numbers.

However it is very hard to be sure what will be the actual numbers who will live there. As the majority of the housing is in the market sector which will be highly priced, many of the properties are likely to be bought either by non residents wanting a London base or as investments which may be let out to short term tenants. In neither case will these lead to people who will be part of the local community or need the help of local councillors.

The new school, however, will serve existing residential families as well as new ones that may come in the minority of the properties. The pupils are more likely to come from homes south of Kensington High Street than across from the north. The High Street is a natural dividing line and psychological barrier.

A simple glance at the map shows how much more logical it is to keep this area in Abingdon Ward. The present councillors have been involved with these developments from the beginning and there could be a loss of valuable continuity if this involvement was lost.

For these reasons please reconsider this part of the new proposals.

Hilary Temple
Hon Treasurer
On behalf of the Earl’s Court Society
And Resident in Abingdon Ward.