

Fareham Borough Council

Personal Details:



Organisation Name:

Comment text:

So my current assessment of the current borough council wards in Fareham is a perplexed view indeed with some absurd peculiarities that I feel requires addressing in this current review. So, where I live in Chatsworth Close currently, we are currently attached to the Titchfield ward, which in my humble opinion is that we have absolutely no connection with Titchfield village at all (apart from hearing the church bells ring from afar). The fundamental reason why I make this point, and this is very pertinent at the current moment in time is that the Boundary Commission for England is proposing to effectively splitting Fareham in to two seperate constituencies which I think is the biggest concern that Fareham will face is that this will not have the single, unified voice that it has at present (in the form of Suella Braverman), and that with the Catisfield Road estate would be under two seperate parliamentary constituencies (with two seperate MP's) and that it would effectively create a 'no-people's-land' type of situation and would be 100% illogical, as the proposal would encapsulate us with M&S at Hedge End which is not ideal. This assumes the current borough/district and county council ward boundaries which were drawn back in the previous consultation back in 2000 when the area was a much different affair than it is now and that the 2000 consulation recommended that the area I live be transferred to Fareham West, than the current situation now. For example, the next two roads east of Chatsworth Close is Appleton Road and Woodbourne Close, this currently has the most absurd boundaries that was conceived, so much so, that dependant on where you live in these roads dictates who your borough and county councillors are and which polling station you attend on election day (which is confusing to say the least), but for the everyday business of what is happening in your local community, such as the regular 'In-Touch' newsletter promoted by the incumbent Conservative party representation for the existing wards means that you only hear about what is happening on who your ward councillor is and that you do not hear anything regarding other parts of the immediate area, that are much closer than the content you are reading about, without searching for the back-issue to view on the local Conservative Party website. Furthermore, currently at a county council level, we are combined with the Titchfield Common ward which is considered a part of the colloquially-named 'Western Wards', and that the part of Fareham I reside in is geographically-considered part of the wider-Fareham area and that this urgently requires this consideration. Moreover, the main reason behind this sentiment is that the Western Wards are currently expanding on an exponential-rate (such as developments at Coldeast being one example) and which to my perception, has made the Western Wards a community in itself with the addition in recent years of Holly Hill Leisure Centre being an example of a major development to serve that community, but with very little relevance to the community where I live as this to use this facility requires the use of a private car and a 15+ minute drive to the facility, which illustrates the difference aptly as the current ward boundaries would put that area in the same parliamentary constituency. Whilst I could keep mentioning pitfalls in the existing plan, let me move on to what I would call sensible proposals for my area which I can comment on. I feel that the best approach would be to transfer (at least) the Catisfield Road estate (which the southern-end of Highlands Road and The Avenue border) would be to transfer/absorb that to the Fareham West Ward, and that there are 2 reasons both geographically and electorally. The first point is geographically. The current situation is that where I reside is that my road is considered on the border between the two wards and that the one community facility that is immediately accessible (Blackbrook Road Recreation Ground), is located currently in Fareham West which I can access within a minute-or-two utilising the access at the top of the road, and indeed many residents from the surrounding roads from the south and west of the roads location that use this facility as well for dog walking and play equipment use as well, and this is in-addition to any walking routes that flow around the current area also. But secondly, and the more urgent issue, is that based on the current and projected populations, would put my road at a disadvantage in the terms of representation at borough-council level. Currently, the ratio between councillors and

residents in the Titchfield ward is 1:2977, but in future years, would be 1:3152 (rounded up). If the mentioned area was to transfer to the Fareham West ward and assuming this has ~250 residents, the ratio in Fareham West would rise from 1:2783 to 1:3038, and that Titchfield would be near-equal with 1:3027, meaning that this would be fairer representation in-total. But this only gives the one picture of a small area of Fareham, looking at the current boundaries, there will need to be some other modifications as well, notably Welborne being one of them, but that will need examining once the first brick has been laid for that development and I would imagine require a future consultation in 10+ years time. But back to today's world, another sensible modification would be to move the area that Fareham Creek borders to the east with from Fareham East to Fareham South, considering this area has more in-common with someone whom lives in Redlands Lane, rather than Furzehall Avenue for instance, the same being moving the Thames Drive area from Fareham North to Fareham North West, and also including the Nicholas Crescent estate would ideally give a figure close to the already mentioned ratios of a speculative 1:3000. In conclusion, with the reasons I have mentioned, I feel that Catisfield Road estate should transfer over to Fareham West would give the community a more-united feel and would address the current absurdities once and for all.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded