

**Boundary Proposals/Comments – Boxgrove Park Residents' Association Committee - March 2021**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We have kindly been made aware (by Merrow Residents' Association [MRA]) of the Boundary Review taking place in Guildford.

They have informed us that they would like Boxgrove Park to become part of Merrow Ward.

However, the Boxgrove Park Residents' Association (BPRA) Committee opposes this move and proposes that we remain part of Christchurch Ward for the following reasons:

- In line with the key point of the Boundary Review, moving 350 properties on Boxgrove Park (294 houses; 7 shops + 7 flats above; 42 flats in Jordans Close) would significantly increase the number of residents per councillor in Merrow Ward. I.E. If we average 3 people per property, this would move 1,050 residents into Merrow Ward, totalling 7,232 (6,182 + 1,050) residents split between 3 councillors, so 2,410 per councillor
- Any alignment of residents to councillors could, in our view, be better served by moving Boxgrove Gardens (200 properties, so circa 600 residents) into Merrow Ward. **However, to be very clear, any such proposal must be for the Residents of Boxgrove Gardens to consider, and is not in our remit**
- As a residency of 300+ properties, we are happy with our boundary, community and identity. This enables us to manage local needs for the Boxgrove Park residents. This includes a great working relationship with the local shop proprietors, with whom we collaborate and support on such issues as garden tidying, litter picking, bin maintenance, tree root damage under the shops, parking issues near the shops and local school and volunteer groups to deliver shopping to local residents during the pandemic
- Over many years, the BPRA Committee has had (and continues to have) great working relationships with our local councillors regardless of their political ties. They have engaged with us, and helped and supported many of our challenges and opportunities

This note is submitted in a timely manner ahead of 5<sup>th</sup> April deadline, and we will engage with all residents ahead of public consultations later in the year, so their views can be represented in full either individually and/or via the BPRA Committee.

The full BPRA Committee have approved this document on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Kind Regards, Derek

*Derek Payne*

*Boxgrove Park Residents' Association Chair*

