

Thurrock

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Organisation Name: Former councillor for Chadwell st mary (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Chadwell St Mary. Orsett, hordon and Bulphan and Grays South

I am writing to you as a resident of Thurrock and a former councillor for Chadwell St. Mary.

The area of Orsett heath is in my opinion a lot larger than the boundary changes would suggest. Greyhound Lane and the part of Heath Road before it turns south would, I'm sure at a 99% rate would consider themselves part of Orsett Heath this is certainly how people living there spoke to me about where they live. Onwards from this it becomes more varied.

The road signs at the bottom of Heath Road state that anything past this sign is part of Orsett Heath and anything behind is Chadwell so if this is followed this would mean Brentwood road is the hard boundary. There is certainly a debate as to what is Chadwell and what is Orsett Heath. In my experience people who lived anywhere in polling district H would describe themselves as "living on the heath" this is in reference to the Heath open space and Orsett Heath in general. Those in the following roads would always say this: Cherry Walk, Orsett Heath Crescent (the name alone here clearly shows this is part of that community) and Heath Road this also would be the case for everyone to the north of Brentwood Road.

It is my view that those to the west of Brentwood Road in the north of chadwell are far more likely to consider themselves part of Orsett Heath than part of Chadwell St. Mary, this however is not completely true throughout and those towards the higher numbers on Godman road and roads coming off it at the higher number end are less likely to hold these views, but it is still held by some.

In my view in order to makes the numbers work and give the majority of people in these roads the best representation for them Brentwood road

should be a hard boundary between the wards of Chadwell and Orsett, Bulphan and Hordon. This, although not perfect would give the most representation to those living in the area and provide a clear boundary, the road signs at the bottom of Heath road certainly point to this being the clear boundary between Orsett Heath and Chadwell St. Mary.

I think it would be wrong not to put Orsett Heath in with Orsett - the residents there would often tell me that they should be with Orsett rather than Chadwell. It would be wrong not to include down to Orsett Heath Crescent and Heath Road - which are clearly identifiable as Orsett Heath, given their road names and road signs. I do not believe that the proposed boundary produces effective local government - having the boundary at the back of houses - but having Brentwood Road as the boundary would produce clearer boundaries, better local government, and a better representation of local communities.

Whilst I support the extension of Chadwell St Mary to the south-east, around Sandy Lane, I think it's wrong to have the cottages on Turnpike Lane in Chadwell St Mary as they are clearly in West Tilbury. I would like those cottages to be returned to East Tilbury, Linford, and West Tilbury.

I live in the proposed Grays South ward and feel these plans perfectly reflect what I would consider my local community. The absurdity of Badgers dene and Meesons lane sharing a council ward with me always struck me as a bit bizarre as (although not in the proposals) always seemed to me like they were more linked with Chafford Hundred or South Stifford and the areas around the nature reserve than they were with Grays South as a whole.

I don't like the name for the new Ockendon wards

North Ockendon is a village to the north and not part of Thurrock and would be confusing for residents. I think how the wards were previously names makes sense "Ockendon" and "Belhus" but I think "Belhus and North Stifford" would be best. I also like that Belhus cricket club would finally be in the ward of Belhus, seems bizarre to change the name when the full Belhus community is finally united.

I don't like that Stifford Clay's farmhouse is in Stifford Clays ward as it is inaccessible to stifford clays and I think the only link is a name that predates the hard boundary the major road, this farmhouse clearly sits as part of North Stifford - and the resident of the farm house identifies as being in North Stifford. Local residents view the difference between North Stifford and Stifford Clays being the A13.

Attached Documents:

None attached