

Taylor, Laura

From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 03 April 2017 14:27
To: reviews
Subject: Electoral review of Ashford
Attachments: Requested boundary adjustment .pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Good afternoon

Please find below Westwell Parish Council's response to the draft recommendations.

Regards
Susan Wood
Clerk to Westwell Parish Council

1. Westwell Parish Council regrets the loss of Hothfield from the Downs West ward. The parishes work together on the issues that arise for both communities due to the A20. Currently there are substantial issues for both parishes from overnight and over-weekend HGV flyparking. It has been helpful to have one Borough Councillor for these issues . Many people from Westwell use the Hothfield shop and post office, and no doubt this will continue.

2. Westwell Parish Council is pleased to see that the proposed boundary between Bockhanger and Downs West includes the even-numbered properties on Sandyhurst lane into Downs West, and the areas off it , including Hoads Wood Gardens and Potters Close . This is in line with the proposals consulted on in the parish boundary review, which bring all these properties into Westwell parish : notwithstanding the fact that this is a substantial increase in the population of the parish and of a less deeply rural character for this area, but brings many people who have a functional links to the parish into its administrative area . We also welcome the LGBCE decision to align the new boundary to include Sandyhurst Farm within Downs West ward thus strengthening the boundary line as a de facto urban/rural demarcation.

3. However there appears to be one point of error : the ward boundary should include the green lane and associated line of trees at the north western edge of Sandyhurst farm behind all of the even numbers properties in Sandyhurst lane in Downs West. As currently proposed the ward would only include the green lane and tree screen for properties 136-154, i.e north east of the access lane to Sandyhurst Farm. The same green lane and line of trees also runs south west from the access lane to Sandyhurst Farm, the ward boundary here should be drawn south east of the line of trees and green lane, up to where it finishes at the boundary of the golf course. See black line on the attached map . This change would align what is already proposed for properties 136-154 , and include also numbers 86 to 134. All the affected properties would then have the same administrative arrangements and again reinforce the urban/rural demarcation.

4. Although , as stated in (1) above Westwell regrets the loss of Hothfield parish from the Ward, there will be benefits of being in the same ward as Boughton Aluph & Eastwell and Challock : all three parishes have a substantial area and proportion of AONB and rural character to be managed in line with AONB policies, and to evolve with attention to access to services including broadband which are often inadequately provided in rural areas. The area will be modified by the establishment of the new Trinity ward based on Goat Lees. The precise boundaries of that are for the Bought Aluph Parish Council to comment on.