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From: Bowden, Tim
Sent: 11 June 2010 09:17
To: Lawrence, Arion
Subject: FW: Central Bedfordshire Review

From: Cllr Howard Lockey [mailto:Howard.Lockey@centralbeds.gov.uk]
Sent: 10 June 2010 18:05
To: Reviews@
Subject: Central Bedfordshire Review

Proposed Ampthill Ward

I am a Central Bedfordshire Councillor having represented the villages of Maulden and Clophill for some years. I wish you to be aware of the strength of feeling against the draft proposal to unite the villages of Maulden and Clophill with the town of Ampthill as a 3 member ward. The Conservative Council (and I am a Conservative) have recommended this ward to yourselves not only because the numbers are convenient but I believe they were further persuaded because it could also be a possible political advantage to our party. Political advantage is not the most important consideration.

Although I understand your comments in the draft considerations regarding the numbers, I would point out that Maulden and Clophill are unlikely to increase in the foreseeable future whereas Ampthill has approved development of considerable proportions some of which has recently commenced. There are also additional LDF recommendations that are likely to be approved later this year. These developments will soon bring the Ampthill ward up to the required number for a 2 member ward.

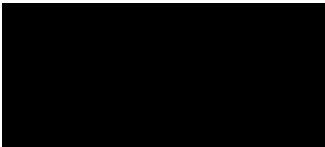
By far the most important concern of both Maulden and Clophill Parish Councils and their residents is the urban/rural difference between town and village. One has to live with this to fully understand the implications. No, we are not enemies but in a lifetime of experience it is proven that we just do not gel together.

It is our belief and I speak on behalf of many, that the adjoining villages of Maulden and Clophill, separated only by the boundary of the A6, should be a 1 member ward. The developing town of Ampthill should remain as a 2 member ward as it is at present. This proposal would make no difference to the total number of members that would remain at 3 for the whole area as proposed in the draft recommendation.

Please give this your careful consideration.

Councillor Howard Lockey.
Maulden, Clophill, Haynes and Houghton Conquest Ward
Central Bedfordshire Council.





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