

Parish and town council submissions to the Oxfordshire County Council electoral review.

This PDF document contains submissions from parish and town councils.

Some versions of Adobe allow the viewer to move quickly between bookmarks.

Click on the submission you would like to view. If you are not taken to that page, please scroll through the document



Appleford-on-Thames-...



Appleton-with-Eaton-P...



Aston-Rowant-Parish-...



Bennison-Parish-Coun...



Bicester-Town-Council...



Bletchingdon-Parish-C...



Carterton-Town-Coun...



Charney-Bassett-Paris...



Chipping-Norton-Town...



Cholsey-Parish-Council...



Cropredy-Parish-Coun...



East-Hendred-Parish-...



Fifield-Parish-Council...



Fulbrook-Parish-Coun...



Hook-Norton-Parish-C...



Kidlington-Parish-Coun...



Kennington-Parish-Co...



Middleton-Stoney-Pari...



North-Leigh-Parish-Co...



Rotherfield-Greys-Pari...



Rotherfield-Peppard-P... Steeple-Aston-Parish-... Wheatley-Parish-Coun... Wroxton-and-Balscot...

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England.
For the attention of Jessica Metheringham-Owlett.

Dear Madam,

I write on behalf of the Parish Council of Appleford regarding the consultation on the appropriate number of councillors to be elected to Oxfordshire County Council. I apologise for the late response due to being called away on family illness for the past two weeks. This village is in the Vale of White Horse and lies on the periphery of South Oxfordshire D.C. to the East and South. We wish to remain in the Vale having in the not too distant past relinquished much of our parish to S.O.D.C. and Didcot because of boundary changes. Regarding O.C.C. Councillors, we also wish to retain the services of our County Councillor, Stuart Lilley who presides over a large area to the West of us but nevertheless attends our Council Meetings regularly and keeps us well informed of happenings at County Hall.

Alan Sharp, Chair, Appleford-on-Thames Parish Council.

From: Tian Davidson [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 November 2010 15:05
To: Reviews@
Cc: Claire Salmon
Subject: FW: Electoral review of Oxfordshire County Council

Dear Sir

The Parish Council of Appleton with Eaton wishes to keep its existing Parish boundaries and the current number of Parish Councillors (7).

Yours faithfully
Tian Davidson
Parish Clerk.

From [REDACTED]
To: reviews@lgbce.org.uk
Subject: Electoral review of Oxfordshire County Council
Date: Tue, 2 Nov 2010 14:59:47 +0000

Dear Sir

The Appleton with Eaton Parish Council agreed the initial response:

We are happy with our boundaries and we want to be included in the existing electoral division of Cumnor.

Yours faithfully
Tian Davidson
Parish Clerk
Appleton with Eaton

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL



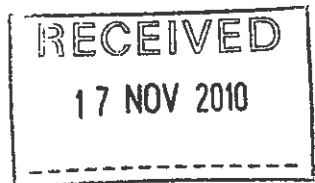
Parish Clerk:
Brenda Wilson

12th November 2010.

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
3rd Floor Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG

ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORDSHIRE

Dear Sir,



Re: Your letter of the 12th October 2010

My Council is of the opinion that the number of elected Councillors should be reduced and at the very least wishes to revert back to the previous boundary where our Council came under the County Councillor for Chinnor which we felt was much more satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,



Jill Beechey
Acting Clerk to the Council

From: Sue Cooper [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 November 2010 12:38
To: Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica
Subject: RE: Oxfordshire electoral review

I duly put the poster on our village notice board.
Benson Parish Council discussed this last Thursday. We guess this is unlikely to affect Benson much but councillors are keen to keep the status quo here.
It is a pity that OCC is having to spend time & money on this at the moment when a minor adjustment within the Witney area looks a sensible way forward.

Sue Cooper
Clerk to Benson Parish Council

BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL



Mrs Sue Mackrell
Chief Officer
e-mail: sue.mackrell@bicester.gov.uk

Council Offices,
The Garth,
Launton Road,
Bicester
Oxon, OX26 6PS

Telephone: 01869 252915
Fax: 01869 324554
Email:
enquiries@bicester.gov.uk
Website: www.bicester.gov.uk

BTC/002/06

22nd November 2010

Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76 – 86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG

Dear Sir

Re: Electoral Review of Oxfordshire

At its recent meeting, Bicester Town Council discussed the above and makes the following observations:

1. Bicester Town Council would like to make sure that the Boundary Commission is aware of how rapidly and widely Bicester is currently growing, with its boundaries already expanding into its neighbouring parishes.
2. There should be three equal sized electoral wards/divisions, with single member representation. (Applicable to Bicester at its current size).
3. The number of councillors should not be dictated by financial constraints, but should serve the democratic needs of the community.
4. Bicester Town Council would like to have sight of any initial proposals prior to approval.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Mackrell
Chief Officer

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr A K Saunders.

Clerk: Mrs G Bickley

19th November, 2010

Review Officer (Oxfordshire),
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England,
Layden House,
76-86 Turnmill Street.
London,
EC1M 5LG



Dear Madam,

Electoral Review of Oxfordshire

My Parish Council has always felt that our Ward (Otnoor and Kirtlington) is too large. Our County Councillor represents 16 villages and 2 hamlets. My Council expects our County Councillor to call in at some of its meetings. However, as most Parish Councils meet on a monthly basis, it is virtually impossible for our County Councillor to attend on a regular basis, albeit our current one calls in at as many meetings as he can and keeps in touch via e-mail. In the past we have had County Councillors whose association with us has been limited to attending, or sending a report, at our Annual Parish Meeting!

Why does the division have to be made on the number of electors? Surely it should be based on the area served? Councillors representing urban areas have all their electors near to them, but the electors of those representing rural areas are very wide spread. My Parish Council feels that one person cannot satisfactorily represent a large number of villages.

On a personal note I would like to know how the percentage of electors in each area is arrived at? Every year, when I receive the Full Register of Electors from Cherwell District Council I telephone to advise them of a number of people, eligible to vote, who have been omitted from the Roll (at least 18 last year). If this is happening in all areas then the percentage of electors should surely be higher?

Yours faithfully,


Clerk to the Parish Council.

Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica

From: Gregory, Eleanor
Sent: 21 October 2010 15:59
To: Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica
Subject: FW: ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORDSHIRE
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Read

From: J Eustace [REDACTED]
Sent: 21 October 2010 13:29
To: Reviews@
Subject: ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORDSHIRE

The Town Council has asked me to thank you for your letter of 12 October.

There are currently two County Councillors representing the town of Carterton. The Town Council feels it is right that there should be two, but objects to the fact that one of these two also covers the town of Burford. The Town Council feels that it is unreasonable to expect one Councillor to represent two very different and in some senses competing communities.

I am therefore asked to make representations to the effect that there should be two Councillors representing who solely represent Carterton.

Janet Eustace
[REDACTED]

SLCC Advisor for Central South England

This email, and any files transmitted with it, is confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed. If you have received it in error please notify me immediately. If you are not the intended recipient you should not copy it for any purpose or disclose its content to any other person. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information given in this email, the sender does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage sustained from acting on this information.

From: Stephen Cowlam [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 November 2010 11:26
To: Reviews@
Subject: Boundary Commission Review of Oxfordshire

Dear Review Officer (Oxfordshire)

We understand that the average number of electors per county councillor in Oxfordshire is 6500, while the national average is 8500. This would imply that our county should reduce its number of county councillors. We can see that the required reductions in council expenditure provide a driver for such a decrease. We should like to be assured that a reduction in the number of county councillors does indeed lead to reduced overall cost; superficially one might imagine that it would, but this must be evaluated. We believe that reducing the number of county councillors in urban areas is probably workable but for rural wards, such as ours, the size of the geographical area is an important consideration too. Our concern is that our county councillor will have to take responsibility for a rather more diverse range of issues and be too stretched to be able to devote sufficient attention to each.

Yours sincerely,
Stephen K Cowlam,
Clerk to Charney Bassett Parish Council.

From: Chipping Norton Town Council [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 November 2010 11:11
To: Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica
Subject: FW: Council Number in Oxfordshire.

Jessica,

Please can you note our response.

Thanks.

Graham Beacham.

Acting Town Clerk.

Chipping Norton Town Council.

The Town Council resolved that around 50 members
was considered the correct number in these economic times.

Response from Cholsey Parish Council to Electoral Review of Oxfordshire Councillors Size Consultations

Initiated by The local Government Boundary Commission For England

First Consultation Deadline Monday 22nd November 2010-11-22

2020 Cholsey's Identity

Taken from Cholsey's Vision Parish Plan

Cholsey is one of the largest villages in Oxfordshire, stretching over 5 miles from the top of the Berkshire Downs in the south to the edge of Wallingford in the north. The great Western Railway almost exactly bisects the parish northwest to southeast. The land to the south of the railway is part of an area of outstanding natural beauty and the 360 degree view from Cholsey Hill is spectacular.

With a Saxon history the earliest settlements can be traced back to 986.

Although there are many old and attractive houses centred around the Forty, Cholsey is not a 'chocolate box' village. Originally, Cholsey's main livelihood came from farming. A significant influence on the development of the Parish was the opening of the railway in 1840 bringing fundamental changes to the village.

In 1870 the Berkshire Lunatic asylum was opened which grew to accommodate over 1000 patients. Both the railway and asylum became major employers in the village. During the 1960's and 1970's the population of Cholsey grew rapidly and many used the railway links to commute to other areas to work.

According to 2001 Census, 3380 people live in the parish in a total of 1,359 dwellings. The asylum closed in 2003 it is on the site of the old asylum that a new housing development is taking place which will change Cholsey once more. On the site of the old asylum known as Fairmile hospital Linden Homes in conjunction with English Partnerships work is beginning which will provide 350 new homes.

Under South Oxfordshire District Council's Core Strategy plans Cholsey will be allocated another 150 homes this will take the village's population close to 5000.

Cholsey does have a strong sense of community with over 35 different clubs and societies, shops include pharmacy, hairdressers, butchers, Express tesco's with post office, Indian and Chinese restaurants and 2 pubs. There are other services too chiropodist, chiropractor accountants, vet and many building, car repair, childcare and other businesses. There is also a day care centre, primary school and more recently a volunteer based library. Today 23% of residents work from home.

The Parish Council is active and reflects many of the interests and needs of the community. It has been working closely with the developers at Fairmile.

Winterbrook is a settlement within Cholsey Parish but it lies on the Wallingford side of the bypass, in the recent past this area has had a run of developer lead planning applications which Cholsey Parish Council and residents have fought. There have been pressures in recent years to change the boundaries to make Winterbrook part of the town. However, research for the Cholsey Plan shows 43% of residents are against this change with only 21% in favour and in Winterbrook residents were 55% against a change and 22% for it.

People like living in Cholsey, houses sell quickly in the village, not surprisingly then, the main concerns of residents is to retain what they value; in particular to protect the countryside and preserve the village community in the face of development.

Response to LGBCE from Cholsey Parish Council, Oxon

Electoral Review of Oxfordshire County Councillors Size review

Comments

Presently Oxfordshire County Councillor member has 6,500 electors compared to the national average of 8500.

OCC has at present 9 Parishes in its Moreton Ward, but in Oxfordshire the main difficulty is that the County is rural and communities are some distance from each other

Cholsey Parish is set to grow with Fairmile and Core Allocations

Didcot has been allocated the greater number of Strategic housing sites in the ward

Winterbrook resident's preference is stay part of Cholsey parish

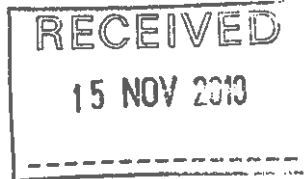
Suggestions to the LGBCE

To bring that part of Hagbourne which is outside the ward (presently in Didcot) into the Moretons , Didcots position will have to shift because of the Strategic Sites allocation there.

To keep Winterbrook in the Moreton Ward.

Cropredy Parish Council

Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
LONDON
EC1M 5LG



9 November 2010

Dear Sirs

ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORDSHIRE

In response to your letter of 12 October 2010 the implications of the electoral review in Oxfordshire were discussed at our Parish Council meeting last night.

While we are mindful of the need for county councils to make significant economies we do not believe that these should be to the detriment of electors. Oxfordshire is a very rural county and more often than not the only way for electors to make their voices heard is through their elected county councillor.

From our experience most of the county councillors do a very good job and are available for consultation and do their best to attend a significant number of parish council meetings in their divisions. We consider these to be about the right size and accordingly we strongly urge that there should be no changes to the number of county councillors representing Oxfordshire.

Yours sincerely



KENNETH I PORTER
PARISH CLERK

Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica

From: Dr.J.V.Sharp [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 November 2010 17:57
To: Reviews@
Cc: Alison Hardisty
Subject: Electoral review of Oxfordshire CC
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

Comment from East Hendred Parish Council

The County Councilor representing our village has a large area to cover (Hanneys and Hendreds) which means it is difficult for him to spend sufficient time on our Parish issues. For this reason we would not want the size of this constituency to be increased.

Dr.J.V.Sharp
Chairman

FIFIELD PARISH MEETING



16th November, 2010

The Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG

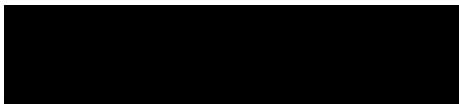


Dear Sir,

Making voting Fairer in Oxfordshire

At the Parish Meeting yesterday evening Fifield considered the question of the number of councillors presently making up Oxfordshire County Council and voted that there are too many and that consequently they cost too much money.

Yours faithfully,



Catherine Hitchens (Mrs)
Chairman – Fifield Parish Council

Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica

From: Gilly Kay [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 October 2010 11:35
To: Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica
Subject: Fw: Oxfordshire electoral review
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Read

----- Original Message -----

From: [Patricia Picking](#)
To: [Kay Gillian](#)
Sent: Monday, October 18, 2010 10:32 PM
Subject: Re: Oxfordshire electoral review

I have tried 3 times to send an email to Jessica . M-O (all in lower case and as described with no luck). Can you advise? Thanks, Tricia

On 18 Oct 2010, at 18:28, Patricia Picking wrote:

Dear Jessica M-O,
 I have looked through the proposals and agree that the number of councillors for Oxfordshire County Council should be reduced as suggested in the Revised plan of Villages and wards.
 Patricia Picking
 Fulbrook Parish Councillor

If anyone has views on this - particularly the number of OCC Councillors, could they email Ms Metheringham-Owlett direct.
 thanks, Gilly

----- Original Message -----

From: [Fulbrook Parish Clerk](#)
To: [Bob Warner](#) ; [Gary Mardon](#) ; [Gilly Kay](#) ; [Sue Newport](#) ; [Tricia Picking](#)
Sent: Sunday, October 17, 2010 7:47 PM
Subject: FW: Oxfordshire electoral review

FYI.

From: Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica
 [mailto:Jessica.Metheringham-Owlett@lgbce.org.uk]

Sent: 12 October 2010 11:56
To: Reviews@
Subject: Oxfordshire electoral review

Dear Parish or Town Council
 I attach a letter from the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, explaining that an electoral review of the county electoral divisions commenced today. The Commission is asking parish and town councils for their opinions in three stages of consultation. I also attach a PDF of a poster, which you may wish to put on your website, if you have one.

This stage of the electoral review focuses on the number of county councillors representing Oxfordshire County Council. I would be very grateful if you could let me know whether you think the number of county councillors is currently about right, or whether you would support more or fewer county councillors. The next two stages of consultation will happen in 2011, and will focus on the county electoral divisions. I will write to you again when we start those consultations. A paper copy of this letter and a poster have been sent to you in the post today.

Kind regards

Jessica

Jessica Metheringham-Owlett
Review Officer

Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House, 76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG
Tel: 020 7664 8525

www.lgbce.org.uk

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 9.0.862 / Virus Database: 271.1.1/3202 - Release


Date: 10/17/10 07:33:00

No virus found in this incoming message.

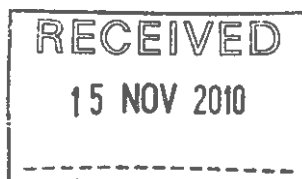
Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 9.0.862 / Virus Database: 271.1.1/3204 - Release Date: 10/18/10 07:34:00

Hook Norton Parish Council


Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
LONDON
EC1M 5LG

9 November 2010



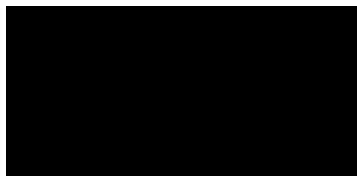
Dear Sirs

ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORDSHIRE

In response to your letter of 12 October 2010 the implications of the electoral review in Oxfordshire were discussed at our October Parish Council meeting. We are of course aware of the effects that government cuts will have on Oxfordshire as a whole and we recognise that the impact will be felt by everyone, not least those employees of the county council who are likely to lose their employment.

With this in mind we feel that cuts should be seen to equate and that to continue to run the county with such a significant number of county councillors is inappropriate. Under the circumstances we believe that the county council could well manage with a reduction in the number of councillors of 20/25%.

Yours sincerely



**KENNETH I PORTER
PARISH CLERK**

Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica

From: Gregory, Eleanor
Sent: 02 November 2010 17:14
To: Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica
Subject: FW: Oxfordshire Review
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Read

From: Pam Johnston [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 November 2010 10:32
To: Reviews@
Subject: Oxfordshire Review

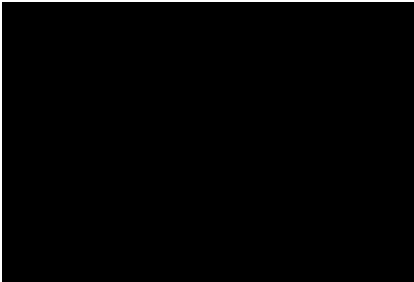
To the Review Officer (Oxfordshire)

Kennington Parish Council considered your initial request for comments on the number of county councillors there should be. They consider that the number should be the same as at present or only increase by one and that any imbalance in representation should be done by re-drawing the boundaries of the wards.

I hope that this information is helpful and look forward to hearing about the next stage of the review.

Yours sincerely
Pam Johnston

Mrs Pam Johnston
Clerk to the Council





KIDLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Exeter Hall, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxon. OX5 1AB



Parish Council: 01865 372143; Exeter Hall: 01865 373691

Fax: 01865 842308

E-Mail - clerk@kidlingtonpc.demon.co.uk

Clerk: Mrs Patricia Redpath D.M.A.

The Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG

Dear Sir,

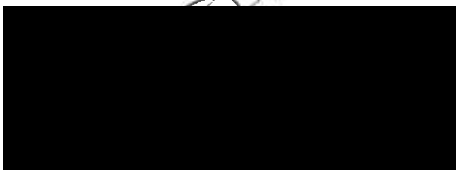
18 November 2010

Electoral Review of Oxfordshire

Kidlington Parish Council is mindful of the need to strike a balance between keeping electoral divisions reasonably small, so as to secure effective democratic representation of local communities, and ensuring the size of the County Council is appropriate to the duties undertaken by members. The Parish Council believes the balance struck at the last review to have been appropriate at that time. Any change in council size resulting from the present review should therefore be limited to such as is necessary to accommodate demographic changes, particularly in County towns where significant development has taken place in the interim. Without access to the detailed demographic data available to the Commission, it is not possible for the Parish Council to specify a precise council size at this stage.

One other matter we would like to raise at the present time is the issue of multi-member divisions. It is, of course a matter for the affected communities to express a view on what should happen in their own area (although we note that many communities expressed concern over multi-member divisions when they were created at the last review). With regard to the existing Kidlington and Yarnton division, we believe this has drawn together communities with differing (and in some cases conflicting) interests into a large multi-member division that significantly exceeded the electoral quota at the time of its creation. Given that single-member divisions will be the norm, we see no reason for Kidlington to be at variance with this. We therefore wish to notify the Commission that we will, at the appropriate stage of the review, submit strong representations to the effect that Kidlington should be represented by single-member divisions.

Yours faithfully



Patricia Redpath
Clerk to the Council

Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica

From: Andrew Hickman [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 October 2010 10:24
To: Re views@
Cc: Ja mes Doble
Subject: Electoral Review of Oxfordshire
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Re d
For the attention of Review Officer (Oxfordshire)

I write on behalf of Middleton Stoney Parish Council (a parish within Cherwell District of Oxfordshire County) and I refer to your letter of 12 October advising us of the electoral review in Oxfordshire County Council.

We feel we should inform you that we have recently made a formal request via Cherwell District Council to increase the number of parish councillors to seven from its existing level of five which was a number first ascribed to us in 1894! We feel that seven parish councillors is now an appropriate number given modern day workloads. In response, Cherwell District Council is reluctant, understandably, to treat us as an isolated case but has concluded that it will consider embarking upon a 'community governance review' although this will have cost implications. We were advised of this in September but have heard nothing since.

We are not clear how your review will affect the parish councils within boundaries but wonder whether the work being undertaken can be dovetailed with Cherwell District Council's proposals to try to reach a conclusion based not only on number of electors but also the increase in bureaucracy which councillors are required to cope with.

Andrew F Hickman
Clerk to the Council

NORTH LEIGH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Patrick Power



16 November 2010

Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76 - 86 Turnmill Street
LONDON
EC1M 5LG



Dear Review Officer

Electoral Review of Oxfordshire

North Leigh Parish Council has discussed this matter and comments that -

It is understood that the Witney East Division has triggered this review because of its size, i.e. the number of electors. The Oxfordshire County Council had put forward a practical solution to Witney in three members divisions until the next periodic review is due. North Leigh Parish Council supports this practical way forward.

Yours sincerely



Clerk to the Council

From: barbara marston [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 November 2010 06:03
To: Reviews@
Subject: ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORDSHIRE
Importance: High

**REPRESENTATIONS BY ROTHERFIELD GREYS PARISH COUNCIL, SOUTH
OXFORDSHIRE IN RESPONSE TO LETTER OF 12 10 10 FROM JESSICA
METHERINGHAM-OWLETT:**

We would request that the boundary of Satwell Close is altered to so it falls entirely within the adjoining parish of Highmoor village to coincide with the area known at Satwell being in Highmoor.

Barbara Marston - Clerk
Rotherfield Greys Parish Council

From: barbara marston [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 November 2010 06:03
To: Reviews@
Subject: ELECTORAL REVIEW OF OXFORDSHIRE
Importance: High

REPRESENTATIONS BY ROTHERFIELD PEPPARD PARISH COUNCIL, SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE IN RESPONSE TO LETTER OF 12 10 10 FROM JESSICA METHERINGHAM-OWLETT:

In our view, the Oxfordshire County Councillor member for our ward is already overstretched with the large area she covers and should not have to bear an increased load.

Barbara Marston - Clerk
Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council

Metheringham-Owlett, Jessica

From: Margaret Mason [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 October 2010 16:48
To: Reviews@
Subject: Oxfordshire Electoral Review

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

In response to the invitation to comment on the forthcoming electoral review in Oxfordshire County Council -

Steeple Aston Parish Council wishes to make the following comments:

We believe that there is scope for a reduction in the number of County Councillors serving Oxfordshire

We are confident that the Steeple Aston Parish Council has the correct number of Parish Councillors

We agree with both the name and boundaries of the Parish Wards as at present determined

Margaret Mason
Steeple Aston Parish Council

WHEATLEY PARISH COUNCIL

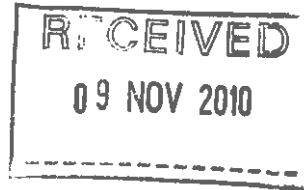


The Review Officer (Oxfordshire)
Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House
76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG

Clerk to the Council: Gareth Morris



5th November 2010



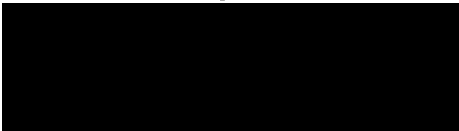
Dear Sir

Electoral Review of Oxfordshire

Wheatley Parish Council has discussed your letter to us of 12th October 2010 re the electoral review of Oxfordshire.

The Council was of the opinion that the boundaries should be left as they are at the moment subject to creating an additional councillor for Witney.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Morris
Clerk to Wheatley Parish Council

From: Patricia Jesson [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 November 2010 20:43
To: Reviews@
Subject: Fw: Electoral reform

Dear Ms Metheringham-Owlett,

Electoral Review of Oxfordshire

Please find the response and joint views of Wroxton & Balscote Parish Councillors re "council size" for OCC.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia M Jesson
Wroxton and Balscote Parish Clerk

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Bob Jesson [REDACTED]
To: Patricia Jesson [REDACTED]
Sent: Mon, 8 November, 2010 19:26:56
Subject: Electoral reform

It is very difficult to comment on the overall size of the County Council, but on the whole there is a general consensus that the number of 72 councillors could and should be reduced. This number of 72 councillors have been in post for many years and as the involvement in Education, Fire Service and Police has diminished the number of councillors has remained static.

In determining numbers required it is difficult to base a decision on numbers alone. As an example in our locality one councillor has responsibility for 20 Parishes and 140 sq miles of territory whilst another is responsible for the same number of electorate but has 4 villages all in close proximity. Some allowance must be made for these disparities. Some allowance must also be made for Councillors who have Cabinet roles as time will be consumed on these duties. This is very difficult as members move in and out of Cabinet Roles but stay elected for 5 years