

CAPEL PARISH COUNCIL
BEARE GREEN, CAPEL AND COLDHARBOUR

Mrs Jackie Coke
Clerk to the Council



email:



March 23rd 2011

Sarah Murphy, Review Officer
Local Government Boundary
Commission for England
Layden House
76 – 86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG

Dear Sarah

Electoral Review of Surrey County Council

Comments on stage 1 (one) 11th January till 3rd April 2011

Surrey County Council's Electoral Review has been fully discussed by Parish Councillors at their January, February and March meetings with input from Cllr. Helyn Clack (Dorking Rural), Cllr. Hazel Watson (Dorking Hills) and with the opportunity for input from Mole Valley District Cllrs for Beare Green and those for Capel, Leigh and Newdigate. All three meetings were open to the public and copies of the poster 'Help us make votes fairer in Surrey' had been posted in all three wards prior to the meetings.

In its response on the optimum Council size Parish Councillors opted to keep the status quo of 80 Councillors. This was also the Commission's decision in December 2011.

An extract from the Parish Council minutes **Min Ref. 16A (21.02.'11)** reads....'The County Council has divided up the number of councillors and allocated the number per borough / district with Mole Valley still having 6. Councillors have opted for minimal change and suggest that with Dorking Hills division being fractionally too small and Bookham and Fetcham West /East division too large, the solution would be to adjust these boundaries to increase the size of Dorking Hills thus not affecting Capel parish.'

Making the above minor adjustments retains the current divisions within the Parish of Capel ie Coldharbour ward within Dorking Hills division and Capel and Beare Green within Dorking Rural division. It would retain the identities and interests of the local communities and would provide for the same effective and convenient government

whilst delivering electoral equality. The Parish and its component communities work well like this and to attempt to balance numbers by adjustments between these two divisions would be detrimental to those communities and the maintenance those communities.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Coke
Clerk to Capel Parish Council