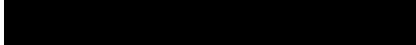




WEST HORSLEY PARISH COUNCIL



re: Division Boundaries

Sarah Murphy, Review Officer
Local Government Boundary
Commission for England

The Review Officer (Surrey)
Layden House
76 – 86 Turnmill Street
London
EC1M 5LG

21st March 2011

Dear Sarah,

The Local Government Boundary Commission Review of Surrey has been discussed at West Horsley Parish Council meetings during November 2010, and March 2011. Two Parish Councillors had also attended the Electoral Review Briefing on 26th October 2010. We note from the Commission's news release on the 11th January 2011 that

“Following the completion of its initial consultation in December 2010, the Commission is proposing that the county council should have 80 councillors. The LGBCE now needs information from people and groups across Surrey to help it to map out a new pattern of divisions for the county.”

The content of this letter forms West Horsley Parish Council's submission of information.

The Horsleys is a rural Division encompassing a large geographic area. The villages of East and West Horsley, Effingham, Ockham, Ripley and Wisley together form this cohesive community.

West Horsley Parish Council feels that the current Division Boundary of the Horsleys should be maintained for the following reasons:

- Station Parade East Horsley is identified on the Guildford Borough Local Plan 2003 as a District shopping centre; having a chemist, small supermarkets, butchers, bakers, several banks, post office, hairdressers, news agent and several restaurants it provides a focal point for all the villages in the division.
- The Villages are served by the same railway line- Guildford to Waterloo with Stations at Horsley and Effingham which provides a good link within the Division.
- The community is connected by several bus services which follow a route through the villages and connect to the Secondary school to which the majority of the villages in the Division feed.
- The Horsley Medical centre serves the villages of East and West Horsley Some Horsley residents and residents of Ockham use the Ripley Surgery.
- Horsley Library a focal point used by the community
- The highly successful Horsley youth club is attended by children living in the villages of East and West Horsley, Effingham and Ockham
- The Parties of East and West Horsley hold shared community events e.g. Royal Wedding Party 2011, shared Village Fete 2002 and proposed Diamond Jubilee Fete 2012

- The villages of East and West Horsley share the Grace and Favour community garden open to all residents and new allotment provision.
- Horsley football club, cricket club and tennis club all attract people from the division as does the Rugby club based in Effingham.
- The East and West Horsley local initiative charitable fund “The Horsleys Community Fund”(HCF) was established in March 2010. This is a local fund for local people. The HCF ethos:
Our home is more than just the house we live in. It is the villages as a whole; the physical environment, the people and the organisations that bring us all together. Contributing to a local fund enhances personal connection to the community that surrounds us, breaks down barriers and gives opportunities to make new friendships. www.communityfoundationsurrey.org.uk/horsleys
- The villages of East and West Horsley have a long historic connection. In 1036 the thane who owned Horsley gave a third of his land to the Archbishop of Canterbury” for the good of his soul”, thus creating East Horsley.
- The North Downs Way which lies to the south of the Division forms a natural and easily identifiable boundary.
- To the west of the Division lies a large tract of land some of which is owned by the National Trust (over 400 acres), Gason and Norcote Woods, farm land and a golf course which makes the villages of East and West Clandon feel remote from the division.
- The River Wey provides a natural boundary to the North West of the Division whilst the M25 provides a manmade boundary to the North East

We know that this information will help to outline the strong community links which unite the Horsley's Division and make it a great community for residents to share.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Soo Simmonds
Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer
West Horsley Parish Council