

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Personal Details:

Name:

[REDACTED]

E-mail:

[REDACTED]

Postcode:

[REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Member of the public

Comment text:

I strongly believe that electoral wards should properly align with the parish and town councils that they are to represent. In the case of the Brenchley and Horsmonden ward this does not happen. Brenchley & Matfield villages have a single combined parish council and approximately 2300 electors combined across their two polling districts G and H. Horsmonden has its own parish council with 1800 electors at the last election in polling district K. They are very different communities with plans and directions set by different local councils. Over the next few years according to the local plan there will be somewhere between 240 and 320 new residential buildings in Horsmonden, approximately 50 of which are due to be completed and ready for occupation this year. As the new buildings are completed this will effectively equalise the electoral numbers between the two parish council boundaries. For example with each dwelling comprising an average of 1.5 voters Horsmonden would have almost 2300 voters in the event of the larger number of new dwellings being built. By comparison there is very little building planned in Brenchley and Matfield to my knowledge. Horsmonden was historically a single member ward before being shoe-horned into a two member ward with the neighbouring villages in the 1990s. It should once again be a single member ward to allow the residents of the village and parish to have a representative from their community that can focus 100% on the issues and concerns of their parish. The voter numbers would also allow for the two parish councils to have a practically equivalent ratio of electors per representative.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded