

## Bracknell Forest Council

a ceremonial shire's unitary district  
07-ix-2020

Richard OTTERWAY  
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### FER in BFC: warding arrangements, Council's future SIZE

Ref A: **Appendix** issued 15-xi-19: **FER in BFC: stage.1 council's future SIZE**

The future council size for Bracknell Forest Council (BFC) must respect the town of BRACKNELL's particular character. The Commissioners are now mindful to allow a size of 41-members in the future as viable. 41-council would respect the neighbourhoods' particular character in town of BRACKNELL.

The New-Town was developed by Bracknell Development Corporation (BDC).

Naming of BFC's 15-wards must now reflect the parish (town) wards' names eg Old Bracknell-PW: not the former 'rural district council' ie Easthampstead. Until 1974 there was an **Easthampstead-CP**: its location was west & south of Bracknell-CP. It was dissolved in 1974: Bracknell-CP gained Easthampstead Park and Crowthorne-CP gained the SSSI & MoT's RRL.

Both Warfield-CP and Winkfield-CP are forecast'25 electorate changes eg growth in (Warfield) St Michael's and (Binfield) Amen Corner.

BFC is 5-sectors - communities mosaic & Bracknell Town neighbourhoods.

- North: Warfield-CP's area needs to be in two (2) boro'wards only; village of Binfield and rural Warfield retain shared civil-parish interests: hamlet of Warfield with its own delightful church; Whilst, (Bracknell) **Priestwood & Garth ward** must be wholly constituted from Bracknell Town's (BTC) town-wards (PW);
- West: Equality, **Gt Hollands ward** now makes criteria's BEST variance; Binfield and BTC would share **Binfield South with Jennett Park ward**;
- Mid-West: neighbourhoods created during the-1960s/70s by the-BDC; Naming of 15-wards must now reflect the parish (town) wards' names;
- East: Winkfield's area is suburban/arboreal - suggest retain Bog Ln bdy; both extant wards are Bracknell-with-Winkfield, each a compact entity;
- South: welcome, Crowthorne-CP coterminous – suggest single list.

BFC has three distinct areas: there are towns, villages, & hamlet of Warfield. BDC created BRACKNELL new-town. Welcome a 41-member Council: better respect for particular neighbourhood character in the town of BRACKNELL.

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WARD, 15 as-proposed >>> BFC's sectors	2504 forecast	av/cllr electors	cllr	variance %
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North - 3-of-15 - as proposed

<b>Binfield [North] with Warfield</b>	<b>8155</b>	2718	3	<b>9%</b> (8 <sup>56</sup> )
<b>Warfield Whitegrove</b>	<b>5215</b>	2608	2	<b>4%</b> (4 <sup>133</sup> )
<b>Priestwood-&amp;-Garth</b>	<b>7143</b>	2381	<b>3</b>	<b>-5%</b> (-4 <sup>91</sup> )

West- 3-of-14 - as proposed

<b>Binfield South with Jennett Pk</b>	<b>7769</b>	2590	<b>3</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>[Bracknell] Town Central</b>	<b>2441</b>	2441	<b>1</b>	<b>-3%</b>
<b>Great Hollands</b>	<b>7483</b>	2494	<b>3</b>	<b>0%</b>

Mid-West - 3-of-15 - as proposed

<b>Bullbrook</b>	<b>4781</b>	2390	<b>2</b>	<b>5%</b> (4 <sup>53</sup> )
<b>Wildridings &amp; Old Bracknell</b>	<b>7082</b>	2361	<b>3</b>	<b>-6%</b>
<b>Hanworth[ and Birch Hill]</b>	<b>7104</b>	2368	<b>3</b>	<b>-5%</b>

East - 3-of-15 - as proposed

<b>Harmans Water</b>	<b>7426</b>	2475	<b>3</b>	<b>-1%</b> (-1 <sup>145</sup> )
<b>Crown Wood with Forest Park</b>	<b>7026</b>	2342	<b>3</b>	<b>-6%</b> (-6 <sup>47</sup> )

**Winkfield-&-Ascot-Priory**

**7832**

2611 **3 4** % (4<sup>259</sup>)

South - 3-of-15 - as proposed

<b>Crowthorne [ CP / ward ]</b>	<b>6787</b>	2275	<b>3</b>	<b>-10%</b>
<b>Sandhurst [ Little/Central/Outer ]</b>	<b>8152</b>	2717	<b>3</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Owlsmoor &amp; College Town</b>	<b>8222</b>	2741	<b>3</b>	<b>9%</b>

Total/Average

**102 657**

**2504**

**41-members ...**

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WARD, 15 as-proposed		2504		
av/cllr	cllr	variance	forecast	electors
>>> BFC's sectors				
%				
=====		==	=====	=====
=====				

North - 4-of-15 - as proposed

<b>Binfield [North] with Warfield</b>	<b>8155</b>	<b>2718</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>9 % (8<sup>56</sup>%)</b>			

OBJECTION: the-Draft's BINFIELD NORTH & WARFIELD WEST ward

ADD: "WQ-w Quelm Pk" – 1344-electors – from **Priestwood ... ward**, and

ADD: "WP Warfield Park (south)" – 891-electors – from **Warfield East**, and

INSERT "WN Warfield Park (north)" – 351-electors – into **St Michael's PW**.

- Equality, revised electorate now makes criteria's good variance;
- B3034 (Forest Rd, Cabbage Hill, Warfield Street, & Forest Rd) corridor;
- Effective governance 4 (four) **parish wards (PW)**: **Binfield North PW**, and {Warfield} 2 Quelm Pk PW, 1 Warfield Park PW 4 St Michael PW.

<b>Warfield Whitegrove</b>	<b>5215</b>	<b>2608</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>4 % (4<sup>133</sup>%)</b>			

OBJECTION: the-Draft's WARFIELD EAST ward

OMIT: "WP/N: Warfield Park" - 1242-electors – into above, and

OMIT: "BE-w [the-Elms,] ...-&-Priory" – 607-electors – into **Garth PW**.

- 1990s urban Warfield-CP neighbourhood: mature own ID community!
- Effective governance improved - co-terminous - 6-cllr **Whitegrove-PW**.

<b>Priestwood-&amp;-Garth</b>	<b>7143</b>	<b>2381</b>
<b>3 -5% (-4<sup>912</sup>)</b>		

OBJECTION: the Draft's PRIESTWOOD ... ward

OMIT: "WQ-w Quelm Pk" – 1344-electors – into **Binfield North ... ward**, and

INSERT: "BE-w [the-Elms,] ...-&-Priory" – 607-electors – from ... **East ward**.

- Equality, revised electorate now makes criteria's good variance;
- Governance – 2-PWs – 2 Priestwood-PW, 2 Garth-PW = 4-members.

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West- 3-of-14 - as proposed

<b>Binfield South</b> with <b>Jennett Pk</b>	<b>7769</b>	<b>2590</b>
<b>3</b> <b>3%</b>		

**Welcolm:** the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Wykery Copse & Jennett Pk have shared community joint interests:  
**Bus 108** connects, via **Ellesfield Ave** in SIA, with Town Central;
- Governance –PWs – **Binfield South PW** and 1 Jennett Pk-PW = 1-cllr.

[Bracknell] <b>Town Central</b>	<b>2441</b>	<b>2441</b>
<b>1</b> <b>-3%</b>		

**Welcolm:** the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Larges Ln to be retain'd as ward's eastern perimeter boundary (bdy): all 6 (six) roundabouts to be included within ward's perimeter - a neat view;
- Governance – 1-PW – 2 Town Central-PW = 2-members.

<b>Great Hollands</b>	<b>7483</b>
2494 <b>3</b> <b>0 %</b>	

**Welcolm:** the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Equality, revised electorate now makes criteria's BEST variance;
- Great Hollands neighbourhood originally created by BDC >60y ago;
- Governance – PWs – 2 GH-North-PW, 2 GH-South-PW = 4-cllr.

(\*) ALTERNATIVE 2-cllr ward ...!

Town Centre & Jennett Park [ BT & BQ ]	<b>5032</b>	2516	<b>2</b>	<b>0%</b> (0 <sup>479</sup> %)
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- Equality, combined electorate would make BEST variance ...!

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Mid-West - 3-of-15 - as proposed

### Bullbrook

4781

2390                      2   - 5% (-4<sup>53</sup>)

OBJECTION: the-Draft's BULLBROOK & the-PARKS ward

OMIT: "BE-s" Martin's Ln est - 333 electors - into **Harmans Water** ward, and

OMIT: "BLP" the-Parks - 2375-electors – into revised **Harmans Water ward**;

- Equality, revisions would now provide criteria's better variance;
- London Rd () corridor: consolidate an original BDC neighbourhood's ID: retain Larges Ln: simple clear bdy with Central-PW, for Bullbrook-PW;
- Governance – town-ward – 3-clr Bullbrook-PW = 3-cllr.

### Wildridings & Old Bracknell

7082

2361

3       -6%

Welcolm: the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Equality, revised electorate now makes criteria's good variance;
- Wildridings PW neighbourhood was created in late 1960s:by the-BDC; Mill Ln / Crowthorne Rd (A3095) are retained as a simple clear bound;
- Governance – town-wards – Wildridings-PW, Old Bracknell-PW = 4-cllr.

### Hanworth[ with Birch Hill]

7104

2368

3       -5%

Welcolm: the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Equality, revised electorate now makes criteria's better variance.
- Accept enlargement of Birch Hill PW to include the North Lake estate;
- governance – town-wards – 2 Hanworth-PW, 2 Birch Hill-PW = 4-cllr.

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East - 3-of-15 - as proposed

**Harmans Water**[ with Martins Heron ] **7426** 2475  
3 -1 % (-1<sup>15</sup>)

OBJECTION: the Draft's WINKFIELD SOUTH ward

OMIT "WV-e ... **the Warren**" - 612-electors - into **Crown Wood**, see below, and

ADD: "BE-s" Martin's Ln - 333 electors - from **Bullbrook** [& the-Parks] ward.

- Equality, revised electorate would now provide criteria's better variance;
- "WV-n/sw Martins Heron" spans rail-station W of the-Bullbrook stream: Martin's Ln is E-of-Broad Ln, W-of-Ralph's Ride, & N-of-SW-railway: Broad Ln – distributor road – would make a simple clearer bound (bdy);
- Governance: 2-PW = 1-cllr the-Parks PW, 2-cllr H.Water PW = 3-cllr, and, 1-PW = {Winkfield} 2-cllr '**Martins Heron PW**' = 2-parish-cllr.

**Crown Wood with Forest Park** **7026** 2342  
3 -6% (-6<sup>47</sup>%)

OBJECTION: the-Draft's HARMANS WATER & CROWN WOOD ward

INSERT: "WV-e ... **the Warren**" - 612-electors – from **Harmans Water** ward.

- Equality, revised electorate would now provide criteria's better variance;
- The Warren - E of New Forest Ride (B3430), W of Bog Ln & S of railway – is a discrete estate with simple clear bound for revised enlarged ward; access thru 'BF' along Farningham into Savernake 'WW' Forest Pk; Minimal enlargement: Crown Wood & Forest Park integrity is conserved;
- Governance: (BTC) 1-PW = 2-cllr Crown Wood PW = 2-town-cllr, and 1-PW = {Winkfield} 5-cllr '**Forest Park & the-Warren PW**' = 5-PW-cllr.

**Winkfield & Ascot Priory** **7832** 2611 **3** 4% (4.<sup>26</sup>%)

OBJECTION: the-Draft's WINKFIELD NORTH ward

INSERT: "WY-s **Chavey Down**" - 443 electors – into (WY) **Chavey Down** PD;

- Effective, merge Ascot, Winkfield & Cranbourne wards, good variance;
- Retain "WY **Chavey Down**" polling district: avoiding any COST impact; retain intra-Winkfield CP's urban/arboreal bdy ie Bog Lane footpath;
- Governance: 3-PW = 7 Ascot Priory, 2 St Mary's, & 2 Cranbourne = 11.

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South - 3-of-15 - as proposed

<b>Crowthorne</b> [CP / ward]	6787	2275
3 -10%		

**Welcolm:** the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Effective, variance respects CROWTHORNE-CP's integrity;
- New ward would rtn - pre-2003 – coterminous arrangement;
- Governance – coterminous CP/ward - to be whole single list.

<b>Sandhurst</b>	8152
2717 3 9%	

**Welcolm:** the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Effective, variance good, respects SANDHURST-CP's identity;
- New ward's electoral arrangements need E of Rackstraw Rd;
- Governance: 3-PW =  
6-town-cllr Little Sandhurst PW, 5-cllr Central Sandhurst PW, &  
1-councillor for a new Outer Sandhurst (WAM) PW = 12-cllr.

<b>Owlsmoor &amp; College Town</b>	8222	2741
3 9%		

**Welcolm:** the-Draft's ward has my **APPROVAL**

- Electoral variance good, respects SANDHURST-CP's identity;
- New ward's electoral arrangements consolidate communities' identities: College Town, and Owlsmoor. The Moray estate – east of Rackstraw Rd - joins Avocet estate in above ward;
- Governance: 2-PW = 6 Owlsmoor, & 6 College Town = 12-cllr.

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### Appendix issued 15-xi-19: FER in BFC: stage.1 council's future SIZE

**BRACKNELL-CP**, a constituent CP within BFC, is a “**new town peculiar**”. Why a peculiar? As is known, after ‘WW2’ a ring of ‘new towns’ were created around Greater London: each one designed by a ‘development corporation’.

BFC's BRACKNELL created by the 'Bracknell Development Corporation (BDC)'. BFC has three (3) distinct areas: there are towns, villages, & hamlet of Warfield. BFC's size is 42-members since 2003: respecting peculiar rather than CIPFA. .

The New-Town-of-BRACKNELL was developed by BDC: Their New Town's scheme design - self-contained urban villages – neighbourhoods: each area with their own clear identity is enclosed by distribution roads. In each nine (9) neighbourhoods there is a primary school, branch library, & shopping zone: each has its own distinct character and that has created a clear identity eg Priestwood, Wildridings in 1967, Hanworth in early 1970s, and Crown Wood.

Since BDC's dissolution, the post BDC estates have spilled over into the BFC “northern parishes” eg Forest Park and Martin Heron next to the Swinley Forest.

My own experience of Bracknell New Town started in 1972-3: the RBNW (New Windsor) urgently needed to re-develop the town centre so to complete its slum clearance project. The choice, either internal as Slough or, external 24/7 open. An officer/member 'working group visited BDC: their Chief Architect explained New Town's peculiar design - self-contained urban villages - neighbourhoods. RBNW group next visited Camberley: we liked its merit a 24/7 open precinct. BFC's recently completed 'the-Lexicon centre' is an open 24/7 precinct.

BFC's extant council, since 2003, is 42-members: the same size as Slough-BC. For effective administration there should be a critical mass of members. Of the recent FER in RBWM, next door, is viewed as driven by ego so to be smallest.

BFC's extant size is 42-members since 2003. Bracknell New Town's peculiar character – distinct neighbourhoods that are enclosed by distribution roads – must determine future size needs: respected peculiar neighbourhoods rather than CIPFA's formula. Forecast'25 electorate – respecting neighbourhoods – would guide a size – 40/45 members - respecting self-contained urban villages.

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