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From: Adrian Berendt [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 October 2022 16:56
To: reviews
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Tunbridge Wells Borough Council boundary review

Categories: Submissions, [REDACTED]

I hope that you will be able to accept the following submission on behalf of the Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum. I tried to send early this morning, but missed the deadline by hours.

In addition to any specific concerns raised by individual members of the Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum about the warding arrangements proposed by the LGBCE, the Management Group of the Town Forum has two recommendations:

1) The warding arrangements for Southborough and High Brooms are unacceptable because they do not reflect the historic and community links that High Brooms has with Southborough and will result in Borough Councillors having potential conflicts of interest by representing both a parished area (which levies a precept) and an unparished area (which does not). This can only be resolved by a subsequent change to the parish boundaries. Either the unparished area becomes bigger or Southborough will stretch to the centre of Tunbridge Wells, neither of which is desirable.

The Town Forum recommends changing the warding arrangements to preserve the existing distinction between the parished (Southborough) and unparished (Royal Tunbridge Wells) areas.

2) The naming of the new wards is unsatisfactory. ***The Town Forum Management Group recommends retaining the existing ward names where possible, with the following suggestions:***

- 1) Royal Tunbridge Wells West should be "Culverden"
- 2) Royal Tunbridge Wells South should be "Pantiles"
- 3) Royal Tunbridge Wells Central should be "Park"
- 4) Royal Tunbridge Wells Hilbert & Grosvenor should be "St James's"
- 5) Royal Tunbridge Wells North should be "St. John's" (caveat re Southborough above)
- 6) Royal Tunbridge Wells North Woods should be "Sherwood"

The Management Group notes that there may be other suggested names from local residents and is willing to consider those.

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Adrian Berendt
Deputy Chair, Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum

