Wavendon Parish Council

Chair: David Hopkins

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Milton Keynes Boundary Review

I have been asked by my Parish Council to respond to the above-mentioned Boundary Review in connection with the current Danesborough & Walton ward at Milton Keynes City Council. The Parish of Wavendon are currently part of this Ward and how it might be amended for the proposed 60 councillor, 20 ward arrangements moving forward.

We note that one of our current Ward Councillors, David Hopkins has submitted the follow response. As Councillor David Hopkins is also the Chair of Wavendon Parish Council I can confirm that my Parish Council fully support this proposal.

1. The parish of Walton is currently split between two city council wards. This impacts the integrity of the parish and causes confusion among parish residents; I therefore submit that Walton should become a single ward in its own right. The ward to be called, simply, Walton ward.
2. The remainder of the Danesborough and Walton ward should become a new Danesborough ward consisting of the parishes of Wavendon, Bow Brickhill and Little Brickhill and the town of Woburn Sands. The evidence for this being as follows.

   - A strong geographic feature, the Greensand Ridge connects Little Brickhill, Bow Brickhill and Woburn sands and the historic Wavendon Woods form part of the ridge, linking all four communities historically and geographically.
   - The Marston Vale railway line (projected to be part of the East West rail link) passes through Wavendon Parish with station stops at Bow Brickhill and Woburn Sands.
   - Strong social, retail, sporting and educational links exist across parish boundaries within Danesborough as do medical (NHS GP) links connecting Asplands Surgery in Woburn Sands with patients in the town and from Wavendon and Bow Brickhill parishes. Other organisations such as Woburn & Wavendon Lions FC, Woburn Sands Rotary, Wavendon Cricket Club, Woburn Sands Tennis Club, the local WI's and many other take their membership from across the parishes and the town.
   - Other historic links include the 2100-year-old Danesborough Fort in Wavendon Woods (now in the Parish of Woburn Sands) links the ward name with the creation of the ward back in 1974.

- There is a strong retail link between the town of Woburn Sands and its near neighbours in Wavendon and Bow Brickhill offering a range of retail, public house and restaurant outlets serving all the local communities.
- Local, local government at parish level meets together on a regular basis either through the Danesborough Forum, the SEMK Stakeholder Group or Woburn Sands Futures (amongst others). There are a plethora of 'common local interests discussed at these meetings and a close working relationship exists at parish and town council level within the Danesborough ward.
- The new urban expansion development of SEMK (plus the SLA development of Church Farm) are co located and split 50% in the parish of Woburn Sands and 25% Bow Brickhill and 25% Wavendon. These number approx. 3000 additional dwellings which will come into occupancy during the lifetime of the outcome of this review.
- Wavendon Parish Council operates a One Wavendon policy blending and integrating the older communities of Wavendon (Church End, Lower End and Cross End) with the new expansion areas of Eagle Farm South and Glebe Farm. It is essential for community cohesion that the existing Parish of Wavendon is not divided in any way following the wad boundary review.
- There is a case for examining and including in the Glebe Farm (Wavendon) development houses that have been developed to the east of Ortensia Drive in Wavendon Gate as part of the parish of Wavendon, naming all within the Glebe Farm development to avoid confusion and achieve very positive community outcomes.

Yours sincerely

Alan Kemp
Clerk to the Parish Council