ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Electoral Review Member Working Group

REPORT of a meeting held on 13 July 2015

Members of Working Group:

* A. Kelly (Chairman)

δ B.J.F. Cheyne * J. O’Reilly
* A. Davis δ C.R. Sadler
δ C.J. Elmer * Mrs. J.R. Turner

* Denotes attendance
δ Denotes substitution

(δ Mrs. L. Samuels, Mrs. C. Elmer and S.J. Selleck were present as temporary substitutes for B.J.F. Cheyne, C.J. Elmer and C.R. Sadler respectively.)

(Mrs. R.M. Bruce, N. Haig-Brown and Mrs. T. Shipley were also present.)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL REVIEW MEMBER WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2015

The Minutes of the meeting of the Member Working Group held on 6 July 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL – 22 JULY 2015

3. ELECTORAL REVIEW – LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND - CONSULTATION ON NEW PATTERN OF ELECTORAL WARDS FOR ELMBRIDGE.

Following the publication of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGCBE) draft recommendations on 30 June 2015 and the Electoral Review Member Working Group’s initial considerations at the meeting on 6 July 2015, the Member Working Group were further invited to consider the proposals. The Member Working Group’s recommendations were to be considered at the Council Meeting being held on 22 July 2015 as the Council’s proposed formal response to the LGCBE’s consultation.

Members noted that following the Member Working Group meeting held on 6 July 2015, the Head of Democratic Services had met with a number of Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood and Weston Green Ward Councillors to discuss some proposed amendments in respect of the following areas: Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood, Weston Green and Esher. The Head of Democratic Services circulated the 13 July 2015 proposals emanating from this meeting to the
Member Working Group by e-mail for consideration.

Members also discussed a letter received on 13 July 2015 from the Thames Ditton Residents’ Association in respect of the wards of Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood, Weston Green and Esher. This proposed that part of the current CB polling district, subject to a number of roads remaining in Long Ditton, be included in the Thames Ditton ward. Furthermore, the area north of the railway line in Esher, part of polling district AC, was proposed to be included in the new Hinchley Wood and Weston Green ward.

Having discussed and considered all the options and suggestions, the Working Group agreed that the following recommendations be submitted to the scheduled meeting of the Council on 22 July 2015 in order to form the Council’s formal response to the LGBCE’s consultation.

AGREED that the Council be recommended to consider the following as the Authority’s formal response to the LGBCE consultation:

(a) with regard to Ward #7 (Oatlands Park and Burwood Park), that St. James’s School and Marlborough Drive Weybridge, be included in Ward #5 (Weybridge Riverside) as the access to it was within Ward #5;

(b) with regard to Ward #16 (Walton South), that Walton Hospital and the Health Centre car park in Rodney Road, Walton on Thames, be included in Ward #9 (Walton North) along with the Health Centre itself. In addition, the boundary be adjusted to include the following within Ward #9 (Walton North) rather than Ward #16 (Walton South);
   - Clements Road (3 electors);
   - Rodney Road (7 electors);
   - Newhall Gardens (28 electors); and
   - Sidney Road 149 – 157A (11 electors)

(c) with regard to Ward #12 (Thames Ditton), and Ward #13 (Long Ditton) the current polling district CB be included in Ward #12 rather than Ward #13 as per the LGCB’s recommendation, subject to the following roads remaining in Ward #13 (Long Ditton);
   - Westville Road (118 electors);
   - Southville Road (66 electors);
   - Thorkhill Gardens (51 electors);
   - Thorkhill Road (187 electors);
   - Rythe Bank Close (5 electors);
   - Mount Holme (9 electors);
   - Rythe Court (68 electors);
   - the properties along Portsmouth Road between the junctions of Thorkhill Road and Rythe Court (32 electors); and
   - the properties along Angel Road between the River Rythe and the railway line (57 electors)

(d) with regard to Ward #15 (Esher), that the area of Lower Green located north of the railway line be included within Ward #14 (Hinchley Wood &
Weston Green);

(e) with regard to names of wards, the name of Esher be recommended to change to Esher & Hersham Riverside, and that the name of Oatlands Park & Burwood Park be recommended to change to Oatlands & Burwood Park; and

(f) no other changes to the remaining wards be proposed.

The meeting commenced at 6.02 p.m. and concluded at 7.03 p.m.

A. KELLY
Chairman

Officers in attendance
Miss A. Mammous - Electoral Services Manager
Mrs. P. Phillips - Committee and Member Services Officer