

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee

(to be confirmed at the next meeting)

Date: Tuesday, 7 July 2015

Venue: Collingwood Room - Civic Offices, Fareham

PRESENT:

Councillor Mrs P M Bryant (Chairman)

Councillor T M Cartwright, MBE (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: Mrs S M Bayford, Miss S M Bell, Mrs M E Ellerton, K D Evans (deputising for M J Ford, JP), T J Howard, L Keeble, D J Norris and Mrs S Pankhurst



1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M J Ford, JP, N R Gregory and Mrs K Mandry.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 2 June 2015 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

3. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's announcements.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

5. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations made at this meeting.

MATTER SUBMITTED FOR CONFIRMATION

6. HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTORAL REVIEW

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on the Hampshire County Council Electoral Review being carried out by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. The Democratic Services Manager presented the report and illustrated various aspects with slides showing the European Regions, Parliamentary Constituencies, County Divisions, Fareham Wards and the distribution of electors within the Borough. A paper containing a suggested consultation response from Fareham Borough Council, which had been prepared in consultation with the Chairman, was circulated to those present.

RECOMMENDED that the suggested consultation response, attached as Appendix A to these minutes, be adopted as Fareham Borough Council's response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's consultation on Hampshire County Council electoral boundaries.

DECISIONS UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

7. LICENSED PREMISES AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Committee received a presentation from the Community Safety Manager on Licensed Premises and Community Safety. The presentation included details of the Licensing Act 2003, the Licensing Objectives, Responsible Authorities, the Council's Licensing Policy, Data concerning Temporary Event Notices, Applications under the Licensing Act 2003 and Juvenile test purchase operations, the Partnership Action Group, the Designated Public Places Order

and the Police. A paper showing details of Juvenile test purchases carried out during 2014/15 was circulated to those present.

RESOLVED that the Community Safety Manager be thanked for her presentation.

8. ACTUAL REVENUE EXPENDITURE 2014/15

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Finance and Resources on Actual Revenue Expenditure for 2014/15.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

9. ANNUAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLAN

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Community on the Annual Health and Safety Service Plan. A paper giving examples of the type of premises the Health and Safety Executive and the local authority were responsible for enforcing was circulated to those present.

RESOLVED that the Section 18 Health & Safety Intervention Plan, as shown in Appendix A to the report, be approved.

10. LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report by the Director of Community on its work programme for 2015/16.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the progress on actions arising from the meeting of the Committee held on 2 June 2015, as shown in Appendix A to the report, be noted;
- (b) the officers be requested to look into the possibility of arranging a training session for all members on taxi firms that operate by mobile phone communication;
- (c) subject to (b) above, the work programme for 2015/16, as shown in Appendix B to the report be confirmed; and
- (d) it be noted that the in-house training session for members prior to the meeting of the Committee on 22 September 2015 would be based on the processes involved in the licensing of events.

(The meeting started at 6.00pm
and ended at 6.49pm).

APPENDIX A

Suggested consultation response from Fareham Borough Council

Fareham Borough Profile

Fareham Borough is a coastal area lying between the two cities of Portsmouth and Southampton on the south coast of Hampshire. It covers an area of approximately 30 square miles, being 8 miles long from east to west and has a population of approximately 110,000 living in 48,000 households consisting of 89139 electors. Whilst over half of the land area is countryside, the Borough is mainly urban in character consisting of a number of sizeable settlements all of which are located close to each other. Fareham is the largest town with a population of around 37,300. The Western Wards (Sarisbury, Locks Heath, Park Gate, Swanwick, Titchfield Common and Warsash), together are a similar size to Fareham (30,500 population), whilst Portchester in the east of Borough has a population of 17,600 people. Other key settlements include Whiteley, Titchfield and Stubbington & Hill Head.

There are currently seven County Councillors representing Fareham, five representing one division and two representing a joint division as shown below:

Division name	Members	2014 Electorate	2014 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Fareham Crofton	1	11,729	-10.3%	11,665	-15%
Fareham Portchester	1	14,491	+10.8%	14,117	+2%
Fareham Sarisbury	1	12,026	-8.1%	13,456	-2%
Fareham Titchfield	1	11,759	-10.1%	11,641	-15%
Fareham Town	2	27,946	+6.8%	30,883	+1%
Fareham Warsash	1	11,188	-14.5%	11,214	-19%
Total	7	89,139		92,976	

The existing pattern of divisions across the Borough serves the electorate and the distinct communities within the divisions effectively but it is recognised by Fareham Borough Council that the majority of the divisions fall outside of the + / - 10% variance threshold required by the statutory criteria of this review.

It is not proposed to suggest any name change to any of the divisions.

The proposed amendments to address the variances in each division are as follows:

Fareham Crofton

Division name	Members	2014 Electorate	2014 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
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Fareham Crofton	1	11,729	-10.3%	11,665	-15%
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This division currently comprises of the Hill Head & Stubbington wards forming a single urban area with a range of services including a local centre, doctors, dentists, two primary schools, a secondary school and a community centre.. Its boundaries are well defined by Solent Water to the south, Gosport divisions to the east, a strategic gap to the north and open fields to the west. These features create a natural settlement boundary separating the division from Titchfield division to the west and Fareham Town to the north.

It is accepted that the figures fall outside of the + / - 10% variance threshold required by the statutory criteria of this review but it is considered that this settlement in terms of its geography is isolated and no changes should be made to the existing division boundaries.

RECOMMEND: No change

Fareham Portchester

Division name	Members	2014 Electorate	2014 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Fareham Portchester	1	14,491	+10.8%	14,117	+2%

Fareham Portchester division comprises of Portchester East and Portchester West ward and forms part of the eastern boundary of the Borough . The main settlement of Portchester consists of modern residential and industrial development alongside the A27 road and the railway, both of which link Fareham and Portsmouth. This part of Portchester has a railway station, a public library and health centre and a large shopping centre. A market is held on Wednesday in the pedestrian area of the shopping precinct. From the centre of Portchester, Castle Street leads to the Grade 1 Listed Building, Portchester Castle located on the southern boundary of the division. Along the way there are many 18th century houses with much unspoilt character. It is considered that these areas are served by the central hub of the shopping area in West Street and the recently built Community Centre in Westlands Grove providing an important role in supplying local facilities and services to the community.

Moving west from Portchester shopping centre along the A27, the development is disassociated from the district centre as the land falls towards the viaduct and the slip road from the M27 motorway in the town centre of Fareham. It is considered that the electorate in this area are more likely to use the facilities available in Fareham town centre than to consider themselves part of the Portchester settlement. By moving part of the electorate from Portchester West 4 district to Fareham Town division, both divisions will achieve the Hampshire average in terms of electorate.

RECOMMEND: Transfer the western part of Portchester West 4 district to extend the eastern boundary of Fareham Town division.

Fareham Sarisbury

Division name	Members	2014 Electorate	2014 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Fareham Sarisbury	1	12,026	-8.1%	13,456	-2%

Fareham Sarisbury division currently comprises of Park Gate and Sarisbury wards. This includes the smaller village settlements of Swanwick, Burridge and Sarisbury together with the more modern development of Whiteley. The division is constrained by the River Hamble to the west and the Borough boundary which separates Fareham from Winchester and Eastleigh. As the electorate falls within the + / - 10% variance threshold required by the statutory criteria of this review, no change is considered to be necessary.

RECOMMEND: No Change

Fareham Titchfield

Division name	Members	2014 Electorate	2014 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Fareham Titchfield	1	11,759	-10.1%	11,641	-15%

Fareham Titchfield division currently comprises of Titchfield and Titchfield Common wards. It is situated in the centre of the borough with the mainly urban area of the Titchfield Common to the west, the village settlement of Titchfield in the centre with large areas of open fields surrounding the village and the urban Peak Lane and Catisfield areas adjacent to the western edge of Fareham town of to the east.

Titchfield village has a local centre, doctors, dentists, a primary school and a community centre serving the local population.. It is separated from Titchfield Abbey by the A27 and there are conservation areas at Titchfield and Titchfield Abbey. The key factors shaping future development in the village include its important historic environment and its position in the Meon Valley separating the two main urban areas within Fareham.

As the village is restricted in housing development terms, the division includes areas which form part of both main urban areas, Fareham Town to the east and the Western Wards to the west. As the electorate is forecast to be significantly lower than the Hampshire average, it is considered that the urban area to the east which forms districts 2, 3 and 4 of Fareham West ward are included within Titchfield division and districts 3 and 4 of Titchfield Common ward are transferred to Fareham Warsash division to retain the identities of the communities.

Titchfield Common was formed as a ward at the conclusion of the last Boundary Commission review in 2001 as the number of properties had increased substantially in the Western Wards to merit a re-organisation of wards. In addition, the area has been defined in the Fareham Borough Council Local Plan as part of the Western Wards and the electorate are disassociated with the other areas in the division.

RECOMMEND:

1. Add polling districts FW2, FW3 and FW4 from Fareham Town division;
and
2. Transfer polling districts TC3 and TC4 into Fareham Warsash division

Fareham Town

Division name	Members	2014 Electorate	2014 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Fareham Town	2	27,946	+6.8%	30,883	+1%

Fareham Town is a two member division which forms the main focus for facilities and services in the Borough and currently comprises of the following wards:

- Fareham East
- Fareham North
- Fareham North West
- Fareham South
- Fareham West

The division includes the main urban town centre which has good public transport links and the M27 motorway and A27 run east to west. The division also includes the rural area north of the M27 motorway adjacent to the boundary with Winchester City Council divisions and the proposed new development of Welborne will also be included in the division.

It is considered that the existing arrangement of a two member ward should continue as the stability will assist in supporting the existing communities within the division whilst developing Welborne, a major new community being planned for the north of Fareham which will include up to 6,000 homes, workplaces, schools, green space, shops and local community services. New roads and utilities infrastructure will also be required to support the new community. In the circumstances, two members will be required to adequately address all the issues which cut across the whole division.

It is recognised that the electorate for this division will be in excess of the 2021 Hampshire average. To achieve electoral equality, it is necessary to transfer polling districts from Fareham Town west into Titchfield division and add Portchester West 4 district into Fareham Town division for the reasons stated in previous paragraphs.

RECOMMEND:

1. Transfer polling districts FW2, FW3 and FW4 into Fareham Titchfield division
2. Add PW4 to Fareham Town division

Fareham Warsash

Division name	Members	2014 Electorate	2014 Variance	2021 Electorate	2021 Variance
Fareham Warsash	1	11,188	-14.5%	11,214	-19%

This division covers the south western section of the borough and includes Warsash and the central part of Locks Heath as well as a large area of open country fronting the Solent. The division currently includes Locks Heath and Warsash ward. A district centre is located at Locks Heath with a local centre in Warsash which provide day to day services to a local catchment area. Locks Heath in particular, has a good range of shops and services including a library, community facilities and public transport. The recent opening of a Waitrose branch has assisted in increasing vitality and viability to the centre which is complemented by 3 hour free parking.

Whilst this area saw substantial growth during the last 20 years, the electorate is significantly below the 2021 Hampshire average. To achieve electoral equality, it is necessary to add the built up districts of Titchfield Common which traditionally form the area of the Borough grouped together as the Western Wards and are strategically linked with public transport which run through the Locks Heath hub.

RECOMMEND: Add polling districts TC3 and TC4 to Fareham Warsash division

Conclusion

Having regard to the proposals, the revised divisions would be as follows:

Division name	Members	2021 Electorate (Existing Forecast)	2021 Variance (Existing Forecast)	2021 Electorate (Proposed)	2021 Variance (Proposed)
Fareham Crofton	1	11,665	-15.8%	11,665	-15.8%
Fareham Portchester	1	14,117	2.0%	13,717	-0.9%
Fareham Sarisbury	1	13,456	-2.8%	13,456	-2.8%
Fareham Titchfield	1	11,641	-15.9%	13,105	-5.4%
Fareham Town	2	30,883	11.5%	27,364	-1.2%
Fareham Warsash	1	11,214	-19.0%	13,669	-1.3%
Total	7	92,976		92,976	

In support of the recommendations the following information is attached:

1. a map showing the electorate in the settlements using a dot for each address which clearly shows the demarcation of the distinct settlements within electoral divisions
2. a map showing the former Fareham Borough Council Local Plan, the brown areas indicate the settlements.

RECOMMEND: That the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee recommend the above proposals to Council and this report is submitted to the

Local Government Boundary Commission for England as a formal response to the Review of Hampshire Divisions.

