

## **BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the Boundary Review Committee held on Wednesday 4th September 2013 at 6.00 pm in Room 2.3, Addenbrooke House, Telford**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R Sloan (Chair), K Blundell, S Davies, A Eade, A McClements and R Overton

**IN ATTENDANCE:** J Eatough (Assistant Director: Law, Democracy & Public Protection), P Griffiths (Democratic Services Manager) and P Smith (Democratic Services Team Leader).

#### **BRC-05      MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

#### **BRC-06      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor N Dugmore

#### **BRC-07      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

#### **BRC-08      THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND – ELECTORAL REVIEW OF TELFORD & WREKIN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

At its meeting on 11 July 2013, full Council gave authority to the Committee to finalise the response to the Local Government Boundary Commission's draft recommendations for changes to the ward boundaries in the Borough – a copy of which was attached to the agenda. A report of the Assistant Director: Law, Democracy & Public Protection was tabled, which set out the suggested basis for the Council's final submission to the Boundary Commission. The deadline for representations to be submitted was 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

The Democratic Services Manager advised that the suggested response reflected the views and comments previously expressed by the Committee in relation to specific wards and areas. Where there was disagreement with the Commission's recommendations, the reasons were included in the response.

In relation to the Boundary Commission's draft recommendation for Wrockwardine and Shawbirch, Members reiterated their opposition to the proposal for a two member Shawbirch ward which would take in Admaston, Bratton and Eyton. The suggested alternative for a Shawbirch single member ward and an Admaston & Bratton single member ward, while retaining Eyton in Edgmond and Ercall Magna ward, was considered to be more consistent in distinguishing between urban and rural wards/areas. It was reported that Wellington Town Council, on a cross-party basis, had also taken a similar view.

In addition to the comments contained in the tabled report, reference was made to concerns in the St Georges area relating to the St Georges Cricket Club and adjacent Park Close being included in the Priorslee ward. In relation to the Boundary Commission's proposals for the Lawley area, the Committee reiterated their disappointment that a separate Lawley ward had not been proposed. It was suggested that the final submission should be strengthened to emphasise the Council's view that the draft recommendation does not reflect the changing nature of Lawley as a rapidly expanding community.

**RESOLVED –**

- (a) that the suggested response of the Council to the Boundary Commission's draft recommendations, as set out in the report, be approved, subject to:
- for St Georges and Priorslee, the eastern boundary of the St Georges ward should be extended to include St Georges Cricket Club and Park Close, as this would better reflect local community views and identity with the cricket club;
  - a strengthening of the responses in relation to the draft recommendations for Shawbirch & Admaston, and for the Lawley area.
- (b) that the wording of the final response be circulated to the Committee members for endorsement, prior to submission to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England by 9 September.

The meeting ended at 6.19 p.m.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....