

BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE

A

Minutes of a meeting of the Boundary Review Committee held on Thursday 29th September 2016 at 6.00pm in Meeting Rooms G3/4, Addenbrooke House, Telford

Present: Councillors R J Sloan (Chairman), R A Overton (Vice Chairman), K T Blundell, N A Dugmore, A J Eade, I T W Fletcher, A D McClements and G C W Reynolds

In Attendance: J Eatough (Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement & Commissioning), D Bowen (Elections Team Leader) and S Worthington (Democratic & Scrutiny Services Officer)

BRC-01 Apologies for Absence

None.

BRC-02 Declarations of Interest

None.

BRC-03 Minutes

Resolved – that the minutes of the meeting of the Boundary Review Committee held on 13 April 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman

BRC-04 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies: Council Response

The Committee received the report of the Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement and Commissioning.

The Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement and Commissioning presented the Terms of Reference to the Committee. It was proposed that a booklet could be prepared for Parish and Town Councils in relation to Community Governance Reviews to outline the expectations and guiding principles.

The Committee noted the Boundary Commission for England's draft proposals for the region. It was noted that there were to be four public hearings in the region regarding the proposals, the nearest in Shrewsbury.

In regards to the proposed Bridgnorth, Wellington and The Wrekin Constituency, members proposed an alternative name of 'The Wrekin and Bridgnorth', noting that Wellington had never been in the name of a Constituency before. There was discussion regarding proposing 'Bridgnorth and The Wrekin', however, the majority of members agreed that the Wrekin should come first, as Bridgnorth had not previously been in the name of a constituency.

Some members advised that they did not agree with the proposals put forward by the Boundary Commission, however, had not formed an alternative proposal at the time. Councillors I Fletcher and A Eade requested that their objection to the

proposals be formally recorded. The majority of members advised that they supported the proposals put forward by the Boundary Commission.

Members felt that the proposals were not sustainable long term, due to population growth in the area, however, it was noted that the constituencies would be reviewed every five years, which offered some reassurance. The calculations for numbers of voters had not taken into account future growth and had been fixed from the numbers on the 1st December 2015.

Members were asked to note the information that a valid counter-proposal would carry more weight than a statement of objection.

It was **RESOLVED** -

- (a) **that the Terms of Reference document, as shown at Annex B of the report, be adopted and;**
- (b) **to Recommend To Council that an alternative name of 'The Wrekin and Bridgnorth' be proposed to the Boundary Commission for England and;**
- (c) **to Recommend To Council that the proposals submitted by the Boundary Commission for England are supported by the Council.**

The meeting ended at 6.24pm

Chairman:

Date: