

BOUNDARY REVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Boundary Review Committee held on Thursday 2nd November 2017 at 6.00pm in Meeting Rooms G3/4, Addenbrooke House, Telford

Present: Councillors C F Smith (Chairman), R A Overton (Vice Chairman), K T Blundell, N A Dugmore, 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 29 September 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 Boundary Commission for England had published their revised proposals following public consultation for the future parliamentary constituencies in England.

In summary, the revisions to the proposals included removing Wellington from the name of the proposed new constituency, which would now be known as 'Bridgnorth and The Wrekin', removal of Much Wenlock from 'Bridgnorth and The Wrekin' and the unchanged proposals to transfer Donnington and Hadley and Leegomery from the Wrekin to the Telford constituency.

Some members welcomed the proposals, however, raised their concern regarding the name of the Wrekin constituency. Bridgnorth had not previously been in the name of a constituency, so it was considered that the proposals should be that the name 'The Wrekin and Bridgnorth' which would reflect the previous name.

Councillor I T W Fletcher requested that his formal disagreement with the proposals to move Donnington into Telford be noted.

It was **RESOLVED** –

- a) That Boundary Review Committee notes the contents of the BCE’s revised proposals for the West Midlands region, in particular paragraphs 3.34 to 3.38 on pages 21 -22 (see appendix B1 of the attached report)
- b) To **RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL** that an alternative name of ‘The Wrekin and Bridgnorth’ be proposed to the Boundary Commission for England

BRC-05 Community Governance Review – Newport Town Council

The Committee received the report of the Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement and Commissioning. Newport Town Council had requested to extend the parish boundary to match with the ward boundary. The request had first been made in 2014, but had been deferred. The Committee was asked to consider if a review could take place without the need for a formal petition from residents, given it was a long standing request.

Councillor A Eade, the Ward Councillor, spoke against the proposals and stated that there was no local appetite for the changes. The communities involved considered themselves separate to Newport and the proposed changes would increase their council tax.

Members considered that the request for a review should come from the people, rather than the Town Council, and stated that a formal petition should be required.

It was **RESOLVED** – that

- a) **The Boundary Review Committee does not approve Newport Town Council’s request that a Community Governance Review under ‘exceptional circumstances’, and will require a formal petition,**
- b) **That the Boundary Review Committee reaffirms the policy that, other than in exceptional circumstances, all future Community Governance Reviews will only be considered when a formal petition from local electors is received.**

The meeting ended at 6.24 pm

Chairman:

Date: