

Extraordinary Council – 8th September 2016

Addendum Paper

Agenda Item 4 – Review of Ward Boundaries for Ashford Borough Council

Changes to the proposed Ward Names have been suggested by the relevant Ward Members as follows: -

Ward No. 5 – Change from ‘Stour Valley’ to **Upper Weald**

Comments from Cllrs Mrs Bell and Pickering

“We are having doubts about the proposed name of the new ward encompassing Pluckley, Little Chart, Hothfield and Charing Heath. We appreciate that the upper course of the River Stour runs through the parishes in question but, in our experience, the 4 villages encompassed in this new ward do not regard themselves as having a particular connection with the river; indeed the term “Stour Valley” is closely associated with the area to the east of Ashford (Stour Valley Arts etc.)”

Ward No. 9 – Change from ‘Trinity’ to **Goat Lees**

Comments from Cllr Michael

“Since I am unable to attend the Council meeting, I wish to submit a change to the name of Ward 9 Trinity. I have discussed with the Chairman of the Parish Council. The name of the Ward should be Goat Lees because it is a name associated with the area and its history whereas Trinity has no relevance except as a road name. The local primary school is named Goat Lees which is another reason to adopt it as the Ward name. Except for the proposed Ward name of Trinity I support the proposed Boundary agreed with Officers at my meeting with them. I ask Members to agree to the Ward name change to Goat Lees”

Ward No. 16 – Weald Central – Clarification that the % variance for this ward should read **+1%**

Ward No. 24 – Biddenden – Clarification that the % variance for this ward should read **+4%**

Ward No. 35 – Change from ‘Elizabeth’ to **Furley**

Comments from Cllr Galpin

I strongly feel that local residents should have some recognition of their area in the ward name, and whilst Elizabeth can clearly refer to the late Queen Mother, it has been a step too far for those I have road tested the name upon - their response has been "Why?" To overcome this problem and to recognise that the name should be short and snappy, I therefore ask that we move an amendment stating that the proposed name of Elizabeth be changed to Furley. This recognises that Sir John Furley, a founder of St John's

Ambulance Association, was born in North Street, Ashford and the local St John's Ambulance HQ is in Furley Hall. This is an easily recognised landmark towards the centre of the ward. I have discussed this with my colleague ward councillor, Chris Waters and he is supportive of this change.

The Council is therefore asked to agree these changes to the proposed Ward Names