

REPORT OF CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

(Meetings held 25 August, 28 September and 19 October 1999)

1. LOCAL INFORMATION OFFICE AT NEW MILTON (REPORT A – 25.08.99) (MINUTE NO. 20)

Members of the Council will be aware of the efforts made over a number of years to find suitable alternative accommodation for the Local Information Office at New Milton. The New Milton Town Council has also been seeking alternative premises and officers have endeavoured to find accommodation which will be suitable for both the District and Town Councils so that a joint facility could be provided. All attempts to identify accommodation which would suit both Councils have been unsuccessful. There are also ongoing difficulties with accommodation for the Citizen's Advice Bureau in New Milton.

The Committee has now received details and has approved the principle of the development of a new building, fronting Ashley Road, New Milton, within the Spencer Road car park, to provide local offices for the District and Town Councils and the Citizen's Advice Bureau, on the ground floor, with affordable housing above.

It is proposed that the office element on the ground floor will provide accommodation for –

- (a) New Forest District Council (including a new Local Information Office);
- (b) New Milton Town Council;
- (c) the Citizen's Advice Bureau;
- (d) other agencies such as the Police and Department of Social Security who have indicated that they would like to have an occasional presence in the building.

The proposal is for the District Council to lease the land to the Swaythling Housing Association at a peppercorn rent and for the Housing Association to construct the building, through social housing grant. The Housing Association would then lease back, also at a peppercorn, to the District and Town Councils the areas of the building to be occupied by them. The District and Town Councils would have to bear the costs of the fitting out of the accommodation to their requirements. Details of the lease arrangements and the division of costs have not yet been finalised and are the subject of ongoing discussions with New Milton Town Council. It is likely that the District Council will have to bear the fitting out costs for that part of the building to be used for the Citizen's Advice Bureau and other agencies. The other agencies will be charged rental.

The existing Local Information Office at Stannington would be demolished and the parking spaces lost by the proposed development replaced on the Stannington site.

District and Town Council members and officers have had a number of discussions on the many issues surrounding the development. While there are a number of points of detail still to be agreed, local District members and the Town Council consider that the proposal will provide an excellent model of multi-agency working and the joined-up provision of services to the community.

Provision of £150,000 has been made in the current capital budget for the provision of alternative District Council accommodation at New Milton. It is hoped that the total cost of the scheme to the District Council will be considerably less than this amount.

2. **ACCESS TO JUSTICE – THE WOOLF REFORMS (REPORT A – 28.09.99)
(MINUTE NO. 23)**

The “Woolf Reforms” came into effect on 26 April 1999. They are probably the most far reaching and fundamental reforms of civil litigation for 100 years. The reforms affect many aspects of the Council’s activities but the Committee has considered specifically the important changes that have become necessary in the way in which the Council deals with liability claims and the action taken by officers to deal with those claims.

The reforms aim to improve access to justice by making the claims process simpler, quicker, less adversarial and more predictable. They require the Council to respond speedily to claims. If liability is to be denied a standard list of documents such as risk assessments, reports, witness statements etc. must be disclosed within three months of the claim being acknowledged. The search for such documentation needs to be “reasonable and proportionate”. If some documents prove difficult to find the appropriate Head of Service must confirm certain issues in a disclosure document. A statement of truth also needs to be signed by employees who provide witness statements and, in rare cases, the appropriate Head of Service might also need to sign such a statement. Documents or witness statements that have not been verified by a statement of truth may not be relied upon or submitted as evidence.

All of the Council’s employees likely to deal with claims against the Council have attended in-house briefing sessions.

There are financial implications associated with the new procedures but it is difficult to quantify precisely the additional costs associated with the increase in officer time that will be spent defending claims. Good record keeping and management systems will keep costs to a minimum. Additional costs should be met from existing budgets. The financial implications of not complying with the new procedures could be considerable. Not only could additional legal costs become payable (which would not be paid by the Council’s Insurers) but all Insurers have warned that an insured’s failure to comply may lead to insurance cover being withdrawn.

The Committee has noted the implications for the Council and the action taken by officers to deal with these.

3. ENERGY MANAGEMENT REPORT (REPORT F – 28.09.99) (MINUTE NO. 28)

The Committee has considered progress on the programme of 15 energy management schemes for which provision was made in the current budget.

Although energy used in offices forms a relatively small part of national energy consumption, it is recognised that this is one area where energy use has risen markedly over the last few years. The increase is due largely to increased use of office machines and air conditioning. However, New Forest District Council has achieved both cost and energy consumption reductions in each of the last four years. A recent Audit Commission report of 15 similar Councils recognises New Forest as one of the best performers in this area.

There have been lower energy prices over the last four years but it is clear that the Government is due to impose an energy tax on the commercial and public sectors. Details are not yet available but it appears that the Council's energy bill will rise next year for the first time in several years. One effect of this will be to shorten the payback period of energy saving schemes undertaken. Policy and Resources Committee previously agreed that energy saving schemes should have a payback period of five years. Some of the schemes in the 1999/2000 budget under the Committee's control involve slightly longer payback periods, but because of the relatively small sums involved, the Committee has agreed to their proceeding.

The estimated total cost of the energy management schemes under the Committee's control in the current year is £35,000. Proposed expenditure on capital schemes, including fees and overheads, is £17,000. These schemes are estimated to result in revenue savings of £2,900 per annum, or a payback period of 5.7 years. The schemes are expected to produce savings of 47 tonnes per annum in carbon dioxide emissions.

4. APPLETREE COURT – REFURBISHMENT OF THE HEATING SYSTEM (REPORT G – 28.09.99) (MINUTE NO. 29)

Following the Central Services Committee's decision in September 1998, a Consulting Engineer was appointed to carry out further investigations into the refurbishment of the heating system at Appletree Court over a four year programme, including reporting on alternative fuels and systems rather than a straight "like for like" replacement of the existing system. The estimate for the refurbishment of the system at that stage was £616,000.

The Committee has been informed that the Consulting Engineer, working with the Council's officers, has carried out further research into options for alternative fuels and systems and future requirements for the provision of cooling within the building. The Consulting Engineer has recommended a phased approach to the refurbishment, commencing with the south wing (the newest wing of the building). This will relieve pressure on the remaining, older parts of the building. The Consultant has recommended that the suitability of the building for use as modern offices should be re-assessed and any changes identified as these could affect the design of the system. However, the system will be modern and flexible and better able to cope with future changes than that currently in place. Gas is recommended as the primary fuel for the site.

The Consulting Engineer is now proposing a combined heating/cooling system which can be expanded as and when required and/or modified to suit changing layouts. The cost remains at £616,000.

The Committee has supported the proposals for work to proceed in the south wing in the summer of 2000 followed by a detailed strategy for replacing plant in the east and north wings in following years and has, subject to approval of the funding, authorised work to proceed on this basis. Options for the use of combined heat and power and solar panels will form part of the design work.

5. PERIODIC ELECTORAL REVIEW (REPORT B – 25.08.99 & REPORT A – 19.10.99) (MINUTE NOS. 21 & 35)

The Local Government Commission commenced a periodic review of the electoral arrangements in New Forest District on 20 July. This Council's recommendations for revised arrangements should be lodged with the Local Government Commission by 29 October. However, to avoid a special meeting of the Council having to be arranged to agree the final scheme, the Commission has given the Council a short extension of time to allow the submission to be forwarded immediately following the meeting of the Council on 1 November.

The review is the first undertaken in the District since 1976. In future, periodic electoral reviews will have to be undertaken every 10 – 15 years. Periodic electoral reviews are necessary because of changes in the electorate. The primary objective, laid down in statute, is to ensure that, within District areas, the number of electors represented by each Councillor is as nearly as may be the same. The Commission is also required to have regard to local circumstances, including the need to –

- Reflect the interests and identities of local communities
- Secure effective and convenient local government

The primary objective is, however, to achieve electoral equality across the District.

The Local Government Commission relies on local authorities and other interested parties to put proposals to them on how electoral arrangements in their area may be improved. Submissions from local authorities must be supported by detailed reasons and evidence. In particular, submissions should address the statutory criteria and guidance issued by the Local Government Commission. Lack of adequate reasons and evidence could result (and indeed has done so in some neighbouring authorities) in the Local Government Commission preparing their own scheme, not based on locally derived proposals.

Councillors will know that a Ward Boundary Review Working Party was set up to consider and to make recommendations for revised District Ward arrangements. The Sub-Committee has met on three occasions and Central Services Committee has held two special meetings to consider recommendations arising from the Working Party's deliberations. Committee papers for all meetings of the Working Party and both meetings of the Committee have been circulated to all members of the Council and to all Parish and Town Councils to ensure that they were aware of progress made and recommendations being pursued. All members of the Council were invited to attend both special meetings of the Committee. Extensive consultation has taken place with all Town and Parish Councils in the District. All Parish and Town Councils were consulted twice and those that required ward boundaries to be drawn within the Parish or Town area were consulted on three occasions. Officers have attended Parish and Town Council meetings for the majority of those parishes and towns where boundaries are being drawn within the parish or town area.

The Working Party and the Committee are anxious to agree a scheme which will be acceptable to Councillors in all major political groups and which will enjoy the support of most local councils. Although there are a limited number of points of disagreement with individual members and some parish councils, it is hoped that the scheme now being recommended to the Council will command the best level of support.

The Committee, on 25 August, following consideration of recommendations from the Working Party, agreed a number of fundamental principles for the review to enable further detailed consultation to take place with Parish and Town Councils. These included the following –

- (1) An increase in the number of District Councillors from 58 to 60. This recommendation was based on the fact that, based on a standard pattern of two member wards (with a limited number of single member wards – see (2) below), a greater degree of electoral equality could be achieved with 60 members than with 58, whilst at the same time protecting and maintaining, as far as is possible, local community identities and interests.

- (2) A standard pattern of two member wards across the District, with a limited number of single member wards. Amongst other things, a standard pattern of two member wards would have the advantage of uniformity across the District. More importantly, a two member ward option has the significant benefit of ensuring, as far as is possible based on current information, that the council would not have to undertake a full-scale review of its ward boundaries again in what could be a few years' time if the Government proceeds with its stated intention of compelling local authorities to hold biennial elections.

On the basis of these fundamental principles, the Committee on 25 August agreed the number of Councillors to be allocated to each area of the District, and where District Ward boundaries between parishes would be drawn. In nine cases, Totton & Eling, Hythe & Dibden, Fawley, Lymington & Pennington, New Milton, Ringwood, Copythorne, Milford and Hordle, District Ward boundaries needed to be drawn within Town and Parish Council areas. In these cases Parish and Town Councils were invited to recommend where the boundaries should be. Further detailed consultations with the Parishes and Towns affected then took place. Responses to all consultations are in the Members' Room. The Committee was very pleased to learn of the excellent co-operation received from the Towns and Parishes within very tight timescales over the summer period when consultation is difficult. The Committee wishes the Council's formal thanks recorded to the parishes and towns concerned.

There was a good level of support for the proposals with a limited number of exceptions. Some Councils are concerned that the prime aim of achieving electoral equality means that, in some cases, it has not been possible to propose District Wards that are coterminous with parishes. Accepting that that is the case, the parishes and towns have co-operated in making recommendations that will meet the Local Government Commission's criteria. Some members have also expressed disquiet at the fact that electoral equality is paramount and feel that this will be to the detriment of rural communities. However, the Committee has been mindful in all its deliberations, as has the Working Party, that it must ensure that any recommendations submitted to the Local Government Commission meet the Commission's criteria if they are not to be rejected in total, leaving the Commission to impose its own proposals on the District Council.

At the meeting of the Committee on 25 August, there was lengthy consideration of a number of options on the proposed arrangements for the Ashurst & Colbury, Netley Marsh, Copythorne, Bramshaw and Lyndhurst areas. The Committee favoured a two member ward comprising Ashurst & Colbury, Netley Marsh and Copythorne South, a single member ward comprising Bramshaw, Copythorne North and Minstead, and the retention of a single member ward in Lyndhurst. This decision was taken on two main grounds. Firstly, this alternative gained slightly more support from the parishes in the immediate area. Secondly, there was substantial support from the parishes in the north western part of the District for single member wards, to which the Committee wished to accede. Including Bramshaw with the area to its west would have made it impractical to form two single member wards, with each having an electorate likely to be acceptable to the Local Government Commission, unless one of the very small parishes in that area was divided between two District wards.

Hythe & Dibden Parish Council and a number of Hythe & Dibden and Fawley local district councillors do not favour the proposed cross boundary ward taking in part of Hythe & Dibden and part of Fawley. The cross boundary ward has been necessitated because, based on the decision of the Central Services Committee on 25 August, the Totton/Waterside area was allocated a total of 23 members. These were divided as follows –

Totton & Eling	-	10
Marchwood	-	2
Hythe & Dibden		6
Cross boundary ward between		
Hythe & Dibden and Fawley		1
Fawley		4

This decision was taken following consideration of two options – one as above and the other which allocated 9 members to Totton & Eling, 2 to Marchwood, 7 to Hythe & Dibden and 5 to Fawley. The option agreed by the Committee gave a better degree of electoral equality across the whole area between Totton & Eling and Fawley and is supported by the Totton & Eling Town Council and Fawley Parish Council. At the meeting of the Committee on 19 October Hythe & Dibden and Fawley local District Councillors again expressed concern at the proposed cross-boundary ward which they considered would dilute community representation and identity. The issue was considered at length by the Committee but, having regard to the more favourable electoral equality and the support of the Totton & Eling Town Council and Fawley Parish Council, the Committee has reaffirmed its previous recommendation. It is understood that Hythe & Dibden Parish Council will be making its own representations direct to the Local Government Commission.

The Committee has also considered names for the proposed new District Wards and revised electoral arrangements in those Parishes and Towns where changes have been necessitated by the adjustment of District Ward boundaries. With regard to the names of wards where more than one area name is involved, the Committee, in making its recommendations, has followed the principle of listing names in alphabetical order. There was debate on the name of the proposed Becton Ward in New Milton Town Council, with a suggestion that this should instead be named “Ashley and Becton” or “Ashley” to reflect the communities comprising the ward. The matter is being referred to the Town Council and it is hoped that the Town Council’s view will be reported to the Council on 1 November. If not, it will be submitted to the Commission as soon as possible thereafter.

As a separate issue, the Committee recommends that seven properties situated off Hart Hill and Frost Lane, currently in Fawley Parish, transfer to Hythe & Dibden Parish. The location of these properties within Fawley Parish appears to be an anomaly. The adjustment of the Parish boundary has the support of all seven residents affected, as well as the Hythe & Dibden and Fawley Parish Councils.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) That the boundary between Hythe & Dibden and Fawley Parishes be amended so that the seven properties in Hart Hill and Frost Lane (but no other land), currently in Fawley Parish on its north-eastern boundary, be included in Hythe & Dibden Parish and that the Head of Central Administration be authorised to take all necessary steps to progress this change;**
- (b) That a scheme for the review of electoral arrangements in New Forest District, incorporating the detailed arrangements set out below, be submitted to the Local Government Commission:**
 - (i) revised District Wards set out in Appendix 1 to this Report; with recommended names set out in Appendix 2, subject to the views of the New Milton Town Council on the proposed Becton Ward;**
 - (ii) revised electoral arrangements for Town and Parish Councils arising as a consequence of the proposed new District Wards, as set out in Appendix 3 to this Report;**
- (a) That Parish and Town Councils be thanked for their contributions to this process, particularly in view of the short timescales within which responses have been required; and**
- (d) That the Head of Central Administration, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, local member(s) and the Parish or Town Council concerned, be authorised to propose to the Local Government Commission minor changes to District Ward boundaries within Parish and Town Council areas**

**Councillor M J Kendal
CHAIRMAN**

PROPOSED NEW DISTRICT WARDS

(Recommended names for each ward, more fully dealt with in Appendix 2, appear in brackets)

(A) WARDS FALLING WITHIN PARISH OR TOWN COUNCIL AREAS

Lymington & Pennington

One single member and two two member wards

- (1) A new single member ward (Buckland) in the north east of the existing Lymington Town Ward, bounded:
 - to the north by the Town Council boundary;
 - to the east by the Town Council boundary;
 - to the south by East Hill/Avenue Road/north along Southampton Road/then west along a line to the south of Woodley Gardens, Redwood Close and Bramble Walk/then a line south to the east of Howlett Close and Samber Close;
 - to the west by the boundary with the new Pennington ward (see (2) below).
- (2) A two member ward (Pennington), covering the same area as the existing Pennington ward but with the eastern boundary following a line along Ridgway Lane to the coast;
- (3) A two member ward (Lymington Town), consisting of the existing Lymington Town ward apart from the new Buckland ward set out in (1) and the area west of Ridgway Lane described in (2)

New Milton

One single member and four two member wards.

- (1) a single member ward (Bashley) in the north of the existing Bashley ward and bounded-
 - to the north by the Town Council boundary with Brockenhurst;
 - to the east by the Town Council boundary with Hordle;

to the south by Sway Road/Brockhills Drive/Hollands Wood Drive/south along Fernhill Lane to Lake Grove Road/Lake Grove Road/Marley Avenue/south along Stem Lane to the railway line/the railway line;

to the west by the Town Council boundary with Bransgore.

- (2) a two member ward (Fernhill) comprising the remainder of the existing Bashley ward and bounded:

to the north by the southern boundary of the Bashley ward (see (1) above);

to the east by the Town Council boundary with Hordle;

to the south by the railway line;

to the west by Stem Lane

- (3) a two member ward (Milton) comprising the existing Milton ward, but including an area from the mid-west of the existing Becton ward, north of the A337 Lymington Road, and bounded:

to the north by the railway line;

to the east by Caird Avenue;

to the south by the A337 Lymington Road;

to the west by the Town Council boundary.

- (4) a two member ward (Barton) comprising the existing Barton ward, but including an area from the west of the existing Becton ward, and bounded:

to the north by the A337 Lymington Road;

to the east by Farm Lane North and South/Dilly Lane;

to the south by the coast;

to the west by the Town Council boundary.

- (5) a two member ward (Becton) comprising the remainder of the existing Becton Ward, minus the areas transferring to Milton and Barton as above, and bounded:
- to the north by the railway line;
 - to the east by the Town Council boundary;
 - to the south by the coast;
 - to the west by Dilly Lane and Farm Lane North and South.

Ringwood

One single member and two two member wards.

- (1) a single member ward (Ringwood East and Sopley) including the whole of Sopley as well as those parts of Ringwood Town Council area which are bounded:
- to the north and east by the Town Council boundary;
 - to the south by Sopley;
 - to the west by (from the north) Narrow Lane south to the A31, then following the existing Ward boundary to the south east corner of Ringwood South, continuing south down the same road to Sopley.
- (2) A two-member ward (Ringwood South) consisting mainly of the existing Ringwood South Ward and bounded:
- to the north by the A31;
 - to the east by the boundary of Ringwood East and Sopley ward (see (1));
 - to the south and west by the Town Council boundary.
- (3) A two-member ward (Ringwood North) consisting mainly of the Ringwood North and Poulner areas and bounded:
- to the north by the Town Council boundary;
 - to the east by the western boundary of the Ringwood East and Sopley ward (see (1));
 - to the south by the A31;

to the west by the Town Council boundary.

Fawley

A single member cross-boundary ward with Hythe & Dibden Parish and two two member wards wholly within Fawley Parish.

- (1) a single member, cross parish boundary, ward, bounded, in the Fawley area (Hardley) –

to the north, by the existing Parish boundary;

to the east, by continuing the existing boundary with Hythe and Dibden Parish south down New Road, then in an easterly direction down Cadland Road to its first junction, then south keeping Cadland Park within the Ward;

to the south, by the southern boundary of Cadland Park, meeting Long Lane and continuing for a short distance north along Long Lane, then west along the northern boundary of Hardley School and the boundary between The Warren and Larkspur Gardens as far as the Dark Water;

to the west, by the Dark Water.

- (2) a two-member ward (Holbury and North Blackfield) consisting of the remainder of Hardley/Holbury and the northern area of Blackfield and Langley and bounded:

to the north, by the southern and western boundaries of the Hardley area described in paragraph (1) above;

to the east, by Long Lane and Fawley Road as far as Ashdown, then south keeping the properties in Ashdown to the east of the boundary, then following the existing boundary between Blackfield and Langley and Fawley Holbury District Wards to the pond south of Hedley Close;

to the south, in a north westerly direction up Dark Lane to its junction with Blackfield Road, then in a south westerly direction along Blackfield Road to its junction with Hampton Lane;

to the west, north along Hampton Lane to its junction with Rolleston Road, then along Rolleston Road following the existing boundary between Blackfield and Langley and Fawley Holbury Wards, and the Parish boundary with Denny Lodge.

- (3) A two-member ward (Fawley, Blackfield and Langley) consisting of the remainder of Blackfield and Langley and Fawley encompassing the rest of the Parish:- the petro-chemical area, the remainder of Blackfield and Langley, and Fawley Parish Ward.

Hythe & Dibden

A single member cross-boundary ward with Fawley Parish and three two member wards wholly within Hythe & Dibden Parish.

- (1) the Hythe & Dibden area of the single member cross-boundary ward bounded by:

to the north, by the rear of the properties in Rose Close and Ipley Way, then in a southerly direction down the rear of Deerleap Close and the western properties in Deerleap Way, then in an easterly direction along the stream dividing the Langdown Road estate from the “birds” estate to the coast;

to the east, by the coast;

to the south, by the existing parish boundary (as amended to include 7 properties in Hart Hill/Frost Lane within Hythe & Dibden);

to the west, by Fawley Road.

- (2) A 2 member ward (Butts Ash and Dibden Purlieu) comprising the current Butts Ash Parish Ward and most of the current Dibden Purlieu District/Parish Ward and bounded:

to the north, by Water Lane (the current boundary between Dibden Purlieu and Dibden) as far as the rear of the properties fronting Peartree Road, then south down the rear of the Peartree Road and Noads Way properties to Beaulieu Road, then south down Whitewater Rise to the stream which currently divides Hythe South and Dibden Purlieu Wards, then in a south east direction along that line to Fawley Road;

to the east, by Fawley Road;

to the south and west, by the Parish boundary.

- (3) A 2 member ward (Hythe West and Langdown) bounded:

to the north, along Beaulieu Road from Peartree Close in an easterly direction to Mullins Lane, then north along Upper Mullins Lane for a short distance, branching west to the footpath to the rear of Tamar Grove, then north to Claypits Lane;

the east, down Southampton Road to Mousehole Lane, east along Mousehole Lane and South Street; then to the north of the new development at St Johns Street/Dreamland to the coast;

to the south, by the northern boundary with the Furzedown area described in 11.4.1 above, for a short distance down Fawley Road to the stream which forms the current boundary between Hythe South and Dibden Purlieu as far as Whitewater Rise;

to the west, north along Whitewater Rise, following the eastern boundary of the new Butts Ash and Dibden Purlieu ward (see (2) above).

- (4) A 2 member ward (Dibden and Hythe East) consisting mainly of Dibden, the more rural area to the north of the Parish, and the area around Hythe Village Centre/Marina and bounded:

to the north, by the Parish boundary;

to the east, by the coast south as far as the new development off St Johns Street;

to the south, on the eastern side by the boundary with the new Hythe West and Langdown ward (see (3) above), and on the western side by the boundary with the new Butts Ash and Dibden Purlieu Ward (see (2) above);

to the west, by the Parish boundary.

Totton & Eling

Five two member wards.

- (1) A two member Totton South Ward on its existing boundaries.
- (2) A two member Totton North Ward consisting of the western area of the current Totton North Ward, extended south to Michigan Way, and bounded:

to the north, by the Town Council boundary,

to the east, down the eastern edge of the industrial estate, then west to the rear of properties in Salisbury Road, south down the eastern edge of properties in Nutsey Lane, then west along Salisbury Road to between Testwood Crescent and Longbridge Court, then south meeting the canal again and following it south and east along the rear of Blackwater Drive, then south to the rear of Honeywood Close/Rothbury Close/Charnwood Close, then west for a short distance along the current boundary between Totton North and Central Wards (including Blackwater Mews) to the canal, then south along the canal to meet Calmore Road,

to the south, west along Calmore Road to Michigan Way, then west along Michigan Way to the Town Council boundary,

to the west, by the Town Council boundary.

- (3) A two member Totton East Ward consisting of the eastern areas of the current Totton North and Totton Central Wards, and a small area from the centre north of the current Totton Central Ward, and bounded:

to the north, by the Town Council boundary,

to the east, by the coast,

to the south, by the existing boundary between Totton Central and Totton South to the point where it turns north,

to the west, along the existing boundary between Totton Central and Totton South as far as the railway line, then north to the mini-roundabout in Ringwood Road near Asda, then along Ringwood Road to the “town centre” roundabout, then north along Salisbury Road to the existing boundary between Totton North and Totton Central, following that boundary west to the rear of Hammonds Way and Bishops Close to Water Lane, then west along Water Lane and between the rear of Hammonds Green and Totton College, then north along the rear of Brackley Way, then east along the existing boundary between Totton North and Totton Central to meet and follow the eastern boundary of the new Totton North ward from Charnwood Close north (see (2)).

- (4) A two member Totton Central Ward consisting of the south western part of the current Totton Central Ward and bounded:

to the north, by Ringwood Road as far as its junction with Calmore Road, then north to Portal Road, along the rear of Abbotsfield to Water Lane, then north to the east of Bishops Close and following the western boundary of the new Totton East ward to the “town centre” roundabout (see (3));

to the east, by the western boundary of the new Totton East ward from the “town centre” roundabout to the railway line (see (3))

to the south, by the existing boundary between Totton Central and Totton South,

to the west, by the Town Council boundary.

- (5) A two member Totton West Ward consisting of most of the north western area of the current Totton Central Ward and bounded:

to the north, by the southern boundary of the new Totton North ward (see (2)) as far east as Blackwater Mews, then by the western boundary of the new Totton East ward between Brackley Way and the rear of Bishops Close (see (3)),

to the east, by the boundary of the fourth ward from Water Lane south to the rear of Abbotsfield and along Portal Road to Ringwood Road at its junction with Calmore Road,

to the south, by Ringwood Road west to the Town Council boundary,

to the west, by the Town Council boundary.

Ashurst & Colbury, Netley Marsh and Southern Copythorne

A two member ward (Ashurst, Copythorne South and Netley Marsh), comprising the whole of Ashurst & Colbury and Netley Marsh Parishes and the southern part of Copythorne, with the boundary where it dissects Copythorne being -

starting from the north western corner of the existing North/South boundary, south following the Cadnam River to a point west of the M27 nearest the A31/Old Lyndhurst Road/Newbridge Road cross roads, in an easterly direction across the M27, through the above-mentioned cross roads and along field boundaries, meeting Winsor Road immediately north of the school, then along field boundaries keeping to the north of Burnards Copse, and following the stream to the eastern boundary of the Parish.

Bramshaw, Copythorne North and Minstead

A two single member ward (Bramshaw, Copythorne North and Minstead), comprising the whole of the Bramshaw and Minstead Parishes and the northern part of Copythorne, bounded within Copythorne as set out above.

Milford

A two member ward (Milford) comprising the whole of Milford Parish and properties in Hordle Parish south of the A337.

Hordle

A two member ward (Hordle) comprising the whole of Hordle Parish with the exception of those properties south of the A337 transferring to Milford Ward.

(B) WARDS COVERING WHOLE PARISH OR TOWN COUNCIL AREAS

Marchwood

A two member ward (Marchwood) covering the whole of Marchwood Parish.

Lyndhurst

A single member ward (Lyndhurst) comprising the whole of Lyndhurst Parish.

Brockenhurst, Denny Lodge, Beaulieu, Exbury & Lepe and East Boldre

A two member ward (Brockenhurst and Forest South East) comprising the whole of Brockenhurst, Denny Lodge, Beaulieu, Exbury & Lepe and East Boldre Parishes.

Damerham, Martin, Rockbourne, Whitsbury, Breamore, Hale and Woodgreen

A single member ward (Downlands and Forest) comprising the whole of Damerham, Martin, Rocbbourne, Whitsbury, Breamore, Hale and Woodgreen Parishes.

Godshill, Hyde and Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley

A single member ward (Forest North West) comprising the whole of the Godshill, Hyde and Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley Parishes.

Fordingbridge and Sandleheath

A two member ward (Fordingbridge) comprising the whole of Fordingbridge and Sandleheath Parishes.

Bransgore and Burley

A two member ward (Bransgore and Burley) comprising the whole of Bransgore and Burley Parishes.

Boldre and Sway

A two member ward (Boldre and Sway) comprising the whole of Boldre and Sway Parishes.

APPENDIX 2

NEW DISTRICT WARDS - RECOMMENDED NAMES

(All Wards are two-member unless otherwise stated)

Parish or Town Area(s)	Recommended name
Totton & Eling Ward No 1	Totton South
Totton & Eling Ward No 2	Totton North
Totton & Eling Ward No 3	Totton East
Totton & Eling Ward No 4	Totton Central
Totton & Eling Ward No 5	Totton West
Marchwood	Marchwood
Hythe & Dibden Ward No 1	Butts Ash and Dibden Purlieu
Hythe & Dibden Ward No 2	Hythe West and Langdown
Hythe & Dibden Ward No 3	Dibden and Hythe East
Hythe & Dibden and Fawley Ward	Furzedown and Hardley
Fawley Ward No 1	Holbury & North Blackfield
Fawley Ward No 2	Fawley, Blackfield & Langley
Ashurst & Colbury, Netley Marsh, Copythorne South	Ashurst, Copythorne South and Netley Marsh
Bramshaw, Minstead and Copythorne North	Bramshaw, Copythorne North and Minstead
Lyndhurst	Lyndhurst
Brockenhurst, Denny Lodge, Beaulieu, Exbury & Lepe and East Boldre	Brockenhurst & Forest South East
Fordingbridge and Sandleheath	Fordingbridge

Damerham, Martin, Rockbourne, Whitsbury, Breamore, Hale and Woodgreen	Downlands and Forest
Godshill, Hyde, and Ellingham Harbridge & Ibsley	Forest North West
Bransgore and Burley	Bransgore and Burley
Sopley and rural Ringwood	Ringwood East and Sopley
Ringwood Town Ward No 1	Ringwood South
Ringwood Town Ward No 2	Ringwood North
New Milton Ward No 1 (single member)	Bashley
New Milton Ward No 2	Fernhill
New Milton Ward No 3	Milton
New Milton Ward No 4	Becton
New Milton Ward No 5	Barton
Hordle (less properties south of A337)	Hordle
Milford-on-Sea (plus properties north of A337 in Hordle)	Milford
Sway and Boldre	Boldre and Sway
Lymington & Pennington Ward No 1 (single member)	Buckland
Lymington & Pennington Ward No 2	Pennington
Lymington & Pennington Ward No 3	Lymington Town

APPENDIX 3

RECOMMENDED NEW PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL ARRANGEMENTS

Totton & Eling

Current arrangements:

3 wards:	Totton North	6 Town Councillors
	Totton Central	6 Town Councillors
	Totton South	4 Town Councillors
	Total	16 Town Councillors

Recommended arrangements

5 wards:	Totton North	4 Town Councillors
	Totton East	4 Town Councillors
	Totton South	4 Town Councillors
	Totton Central	4 Town Councillors
	Totton West	4 Town Councillors
	Total	20 Town Councillors

Hythe & Dibden

Current arrangements:

5 wards	Butts Ash	4 Parish Councillors
	Dibden	3 Parish Councillors
	Dibden Purlieu	3 Parish Councillors
	Hythe North	4 Parish Councillors
	Hythe South	3 Parish Councillors
	Total	17 Parish Councillors

Recommended arrangements

7 wards:	Butts Ash	3 Parish Councillors
	Dibden Purlieu	2 Parish Councillors
	Hythe West	2 Parish Councillors
	Langdown	One Parish Councillor
	Dibden	2 Parish Councillors
	Hythe East	2 Parish Councillors
	Furzedown	One Parish Councillor

Total **13 Parish Councillors**

Fawley

Current arrangements:

3 wards	Blackfield/Langley	6 Parish Councillors
	Fawley	3 Parish Councillors
	Hardley/Holbury	6 Parish Councillors
	Total	15 Parish Councillors

Recommendation

To be deferred and considered by the Council at a later date

Lymington & Pennington

Current arrangements:

2 wards	Lymington Town	8 Town Councillors
	Pennington	6 Town Councillors
	Total	14 Town Councillors

Recommended arrangements

3 wards:	Buckland	3 Town Councillors
	Lymington Town	6 Town Councillors
	Pennington	6 Town Councillors
	Total	15 Town Councillors

New Milton

Current arrangements:

6 wards	Ballard	2 Town Councillors
	Barton	4 Town Councillors
	Bashley	2 Town Councillors
	Becton	4 Town Councillors
	Fernhill	2 Town Councillors
	Milton	4 Town Councillors
	Total	18 Town Councillors

Recommended arrangements

5 Wards	Barton	4 Town Councillors
	Bashley	2 Town Councillors
	Becton	4 Town Councillors
	Fernhill	4 Town Councillors
	Milton	4 Town Councillors
	Total	18 Town Councillors

Ringwood

Current arrangements:

4 wards	Bisterne	1 Town Councillor
	Hangersley	3 Town Councillors
	Ringwood North	4 Town Councillors
	Ringwood South	6 Town Councillors
	Total	14 Town Councillors

Recommended arrangements

3 wards	Ringwood East	2 Town Councillors
	Ringwood North	6 Town Councillors
	Ringwood South	6 Town Councillors
	Total	14 Town Councillors

Copythorne

Current arrangements:

2 wards	Copythorne North	3 Parish Councillors
	Copythorne South	6 Parish Councillors
	Total	9 Parish Councillors

Recommended arrangements

2 wards	Copythorne North	4 Parish Councillors
	Copythorne South	5 Parish Councillors
	Total	9 Parish Councillors

Hordle

Current arrangements

No wards - 11 Parish Councillors

Recommended arrangements

2 wards	Hordle	10 Parish Councillors
	Everton South	One Parish Councillor
	Total	11 Parish Councillors

Councillor M J Kendal
Chairman