

ELECTORAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2018 AT COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE BA14 8JN.

Present:

Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling, Cllr Richard Clewer (Chairman), Cllr Gavin Grant, Cllr Ian McLennan, Cllr Christopher Newbury, Cllr Ashley O'Neill, Cllr Graham Wright, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson (Substitute) and Cllr Jacqui Lay (Substitute)

16 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clare Cape, Jonathon Seed and Stuart Wheeler.

Councillor Cape was substituted by Councillor Ruth Hopkinson.

Councillor Seed was substituted by Councillor Jacqui Lay.

17 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2018 were presented for consideration, and it was,

Resolved:

To approve and sign as a true and correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2018.

18 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations.

19 Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

20 Public Participation

There were no statements or questions submitted.

21 **Electoral Review Update**

At its meeting on 25 January 2018 the Committee, on the basis of the evidence, resolved that a council size of 99 should be recommended to Full Council as the submission number to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England. A draft submission was prepared by officers in accordance with reasoning provided by the Committee at its previous meetings.

The Committee discussed the draft submission in detail, commenting on additional clarifications, enhancements or additional reasoning or wording that should be included. Issues raised included the geographic nature of the council area with towns mostly around the edge, and the impact on the nature of local communities, the direction of change for empowerment of area boards and communities and the role of councillors as community leaders in liaison with town and parish councils and other groups.

Other matters discussed included examples of where community consultation had resulted in significant alterations to council policy or spending, how many councillors were required to perform all necessary roles for governance purposes, and the role of scrutiny.

At the conclusion of discussion, and on the moving of Councillor Richard Clewer, seconded by Councillor Ashley O'Neill, it was,

Resolved:

To approve the draft submission on council size for consideration by Full Council on 20 February 2018, subject to any minor drafting and consequential changes to be delegated to the Director of Legal and Democratic Services in consultation with the Chairman, taking into account the comments made by the Committee at this meeting.

22 **Work Programme**

The work programme was noted.

23 **Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

(Duration of meeting: 12.05 - 1.35 pm)

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Kieran Elliott of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718504, e-mail kieran.elliott@wiltshire.gov.uk

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