

RICHMOND TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 4 September 2017

Present: Councillors Parsons - Mayor
Preece
Harris
Hodgson
Steggles
World
Spencer
Cooke
Blease
Heap

In attendance: Ms H. Lawler (Town Clerk)

01.09.17 Apologies: Councillors Bryant, Hadden, White and Lord

02.09.17 Public Open Session:

There was one member of the public present.

03.09.17 Electoral Review of Richmondshire

An Extraordinary meeting had been called to discuss the consultation document from The Local Government Boundary Commission who are carrying out an electoral review of Richmondshire District Council looking at future ward boundaries for the council.

Councillor Parsons commenced discussions by stating that he was very concerned by how little consultation there has been with parishes. Richmond boundary would be changed to five areas with villages added within those boundaries. The work load for Richmond Councillors within West and Wards differ significantly to the load and type of work in rural villages.

Councillor Hodgson reported that she had attended the first Scrutiny meeting on Tuesday August 1st where discussions were held on the review and stated that notification of the second meeting was only emailed on the day of the meeting and consequently only four District Councillors attended. Details of the third meeting had been advertised prior to the event and therefore more Councillors attended.

Councillor World stated that it is Richmondshire District Council's intention to reduce the number of Councillors from 34 to 24. He informed members that there are 6,674 Electorate population in Richmond and if the number of Councillors were increased to 26, this would make 1,669 electors per Councillor. It was noted that the Boundary Commission can only increase the number of Councillors by two and no more, an increase from 24 to 26.

Councillor Heap reiterated that Richmond Town Council does not have to change its boundary and reported that the only potential changes that would impact on the Town Council is that we would only have 5 District Councillors to refer to other than that there is no impact upon Richmond Town Council.

The Town Clerk was requested to forward the following comments to the Local Government Boundary Commission, stating that Richmondshire District Council failed to consult with the communities that are to be divided. The projected electorate in 2023 allows for division of Richmond into 4 which would respect the parish boundaries and the integrity of the service centre of Richmond, including the boundary of the North Yorkshire County Council seat.

Proposed: Councillor Parsons Seconded: Councillor World

RESOLVED: that the above comments be sent to the Local Government Boundary Commission.

Appointment of Deputy Mayor

The Mayor stated that due to the resignation of Councillor Croasdell he wished to appoint Councillor Lorraine Hodgson as his Deputy Mayor.

Proposed: Councillor Parsons Seconded: Councillor Preece

RESOLVED: that the appointment of Councillor Lorraine Hodgson as Deputy Mayor be approved.

The meeting finished at 7.05 p.m.