

Fox Lane and District Residents' Association

www.foxlane.net

The Fox Lane and District Residents' Association (FLDRA) was formed in 1978 and is the sole voluntary body representing the interests of residents living within the area bounded by Bourne Hill, The Bourne, High Street, Cannon Hill, Aldermans Hill and Green Lanes. This area comprises a total of around 3500 households, of which more than 460 households are currently members.

Response to the Boundary Commission Proposals for new wards in Enfield

At present FLDRA covers a compact area (ie. the roads running from the north and south of Fox Lane, N13 & N14) but it actually covers 4 separate wards: the main wards are Southgate Green and Winchmore Hill but there are also parts of Palmers Green and Southgate wards covered within the area. This is not a very satisfactory position as although most residents consider that they live in Palmers Green (N13) or Southgate (N14) they may need to attend local forums in 4 different wards.

New ward boundaries:

1. **Palmers Green** – FLDRA welcomes the new ward boundary of Palmers Green as those with N13 postal addresses consider themselves as belonging to Palmers Green. Their nearest shopping centre is Palmers Green Town Centre and Palmers Green station (on Aldermans Hill) is their nearest station and used by many residents to travel into central London. However, the natural northern boundary for our area is Bourne Hill and we feel that drawing a boundary across the middle of Caversham Ave, Burford Gardens and Cranley Gardens is not satisfactory and not appropriate as those living at the northern ends of these roads don't feel they are part of Winchmore Hill.
2. **Arnos Grove** – The FLDRA area covered by Selborne Road, the Mall and Oakfield Road including that part of Fox Lane itself used to be part of the Southgate Green ward but has now been placed in the new Arnos Grove ward. This does not make sense as residents in these roads have Southgate postal addresses (N14) and their nearest station is Southgate (Piccadilly line) and nearest shopping areas are Southgate Green (small local shops) or Southgate Town Centre. It would be preferable for these roads to be part of the **Southgate** ward.
3. **Southgate** – The roads at the top of end of Fox Lane nearest to Southgate station have remained in Southgate ward (including The Ridgeway, Greenway and part of Meadway which used to be in Southgate Green ward) and this is to be welcomed. However, there is an anomaly in that Amberley Road and St George's Road have been placed in Winchmore Hill ward whereas it would be more appropriate if they were also in Southgate ward with the boundary moved to Bourne Hill (the main road) - these 2 roads were originally in Southgate Green ward and their connections are with Southgate and not Winchmore Hill.

Implication on the number of electors in the new wards:

- The number of people in the FLDRA area who have been identified as living in the new Winchmore hill ward is relatively small.

Fox Lane and District Residents' Association
www.foxlane.net

- The first group comprises those living at the northern end of Caversham Avenue, Burford Gardens and Cranley Gardens and FLDRAs considers this small group **should be included in the new Palmers Green ward** with Bourne Hill as the new border.
- The second group comprises those living in the area bounded by Amberley Road and St George's Road, which is also a relatively small number of electors, and if the existing border of Bourne Hill is used instead and **this group is included in the Southgate ward** it shouldn't cause a problem as Southgate is a large ward and will have three ward councillors.
- The proposal to include the area defined by Selborne Road, The Mall and Oakfield Road in Arnos Grove ward consists of a larger group of electors but given the proposed residential building on the Arnos Grove car parks this will counteract the loss of electors. Including this group of roads in the **Southgate ward** should not cause a problem as Southgate ward is retaining three councillors.

From a FLDRAs perspective this new arrangement would be preferable as residents in the Fox Lane community would now be represented by just two wards, Palmers Green and Southgate, rather than the existing four wards.

Susan Younger

Secretary, on behalf of the committee of FLDRAs

5 August 2019