



Sandyhurst Lane Residents Association



www.sandyhurst.co.uk info@sandyhurst.co.uk nwatch@sandyhurst.co.uk

You may be aware of a consultation paper issued by the Local Government Boundaries Commission for England for Ashford Borough, which is intended to equalise the number of electors in each electoral area, change the number of Borough Councillors, the number of borough wards and their boundaries in order to future proof its planned growth.

If you live in Sandyhurst Lane (numbers 198 to 404), Eastwell Grange, Watsons Close, part of Faversham Road (up to the junction with Trinity Road) or the first 8 houses in Lenacre Street these proposals may cause you concern, particularly at Parish level.

A map showing what changes are proposed in your area can be seen on the SLRA website (follow link on the 24 March item on the News page, <http://sandyhurst.co.uk/News.html>). The blue line shows the boundary of the **existing** Boughton Aluph and Eastwell ward. **This ward will disappear in name in 2019.**

The red line shows that the old ward (2,367 electors) is to be divided between an enlarged Downs West (545 transferred) and a new Goat Leeds ward (1,822 transferred). **Your property is proposed to be included in the Goat Lees ward.**

These changes will take place on May 2, 2019 at the next election.

At the borough ward level, very little changes, our new ward councillor (whoever is elected) will still represent the vast majority of our current electorate.

Importantly the external boundary of the existing Boughton Aluph and Eastwell PARISH is unchanged and at parish level you will still be represented by the rural parish, but you will be in a different ward which may, or may not be appropriate.

Sandyhurst Lane still has few footpaths, no bus services, very little street lighting, no shops and several properties are not connected to main drainage – compare that with Trinity Road which is a modern development – very different to the environment of the Lane. The ‘security zone’ running between your properties and new development was intended to signal a deliberate separation, particularly where future growth is concerned.

Is this proposal a good idea? If you are in agreement with these proposals you need to take no action.

If however you are unhappy can we suggest two courses of action:

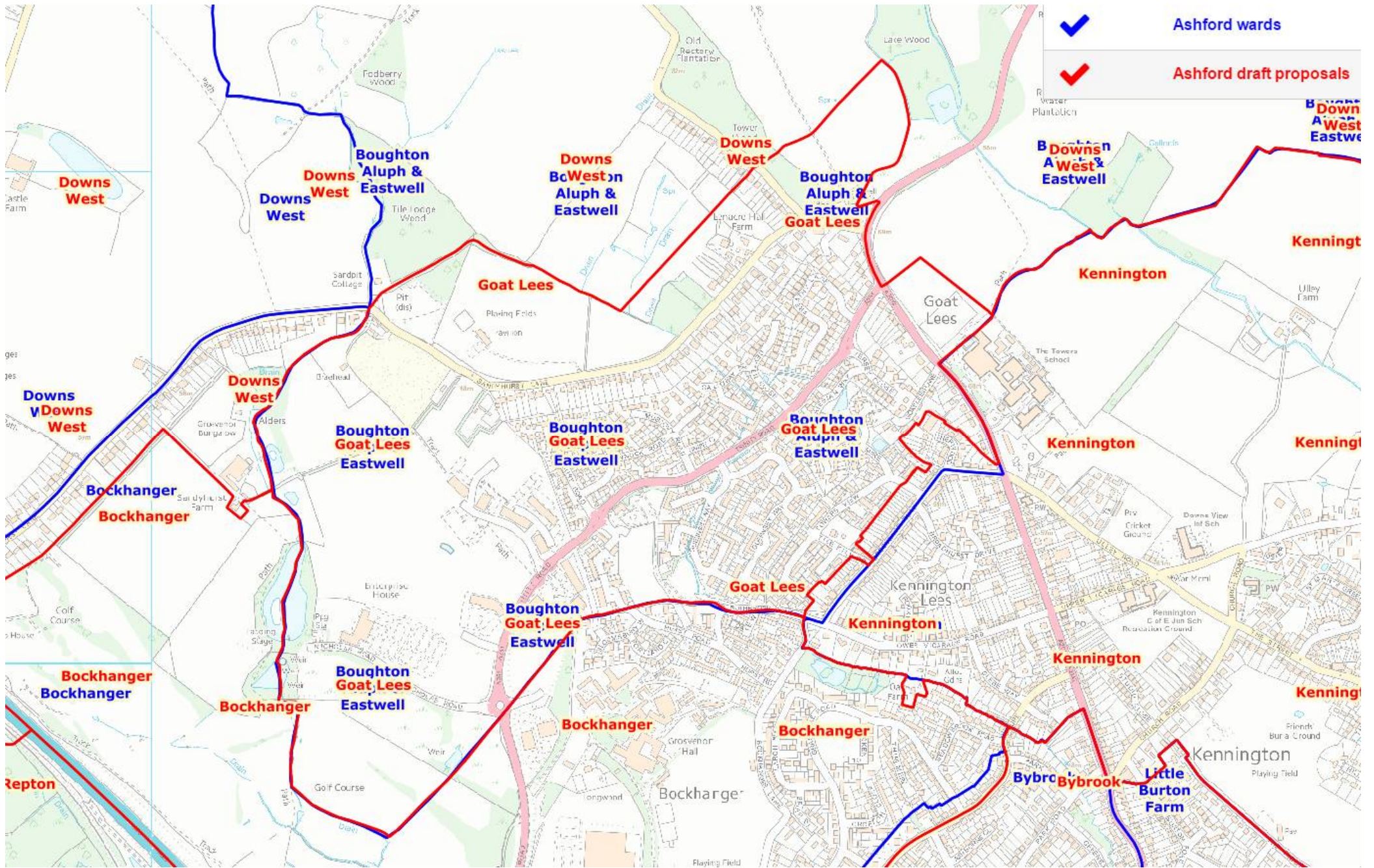
First email the SLRA at info@sandyhurst.co.uk with your name, address and comments/objection. The number of objections and views expressed can then be included in a repeat of the SLRA’s original representation that it expected LGBCE to meet its text recommendations “to include all the residents in the Sandyhurst Lane area in the Downs West Ward” and not part in Goat Lees.

Second, email the Electoral Commission direct via its website at <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk> and express your views.

URGENT ACTION IS REQUIRED, THE DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS 3rd APRIL.

Just to remind you it is our AGM on Wednesday 29th March when an Open Forum session will give you an opportunity to add to your comments.

John Faulkner, Committee Member, Sandyhurst Lane Residents’ Association



✓ Ashford wards
✓ Ashford draft proposals

Boughton
 Aluph &
 Eastwell

Downs
 Aluph &
 Eastwell

Kennington

Kennington

Kennington

Kennington

Kennington

Kennington

Kennington

Kennington

Bybrook

Little
Burton
Farm

Repton

Bockhanger

Bockhanger

Bockhanger

Bockhanger

Boughton
Goat Lees
Eastwell

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