



# Compton and Shawford Parish Council

PO Box 565, Winchester SO23 3HG

Phone: 01962 600198

email: [clerk@compton.pariah.hants.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@compton.pariah.hants.gov.uk)

Web: <http://compton.pariah.hants.gov.uk>

22 October 2014

## Response to the Boundary Commission review of Winchester District Ward Boundaries

Our main requirement is:

1. Our parish in particular, and every other parish in general, should be contained entirely within a single district ward.

It follows therefore that:

2. The ward boundary review should be undertaken in conjunction with Winchester City Council's proposed 2015 parish boundary review (Community Governance Review).

Considerations specific to Compton & Shawford and its boundaries:

3. The property (and only that property) Overcombe, St. Cross Road SO23 9RX, which today lies within our parish, should be moved into the same ward/parish as its immediately neighbouring properties (currently Winchester St. Michael's).
4. We are content with the rest of our parish boundary (as amended by the 1985 Boundary Commission) and would not want to see any changes to the ward boundary which would require changes to the parish boundary.

Specifically,

- a. On the east, our parish boundary follows the natural line of the Itchen Navigation and coincides with our ward's boundary with Colden Common and Twyford ward.  
A small slice of the eastern edge of our parish lies within the South Downs National Park. This area extends up to and includes Itchen Farm, and the historic Hockley Viaduct.  
The Itchen Navigation forms the most natural geographic boundary and should remain as the eastern boundary of our parish.
  - b. To the north, our parish boundary also coincides with the ward boundary.  
Compton & Shawford extends up to the limit of the unparished areas of Winchester City, and for the most part follows the demarcation line between CIL charging zones 2 and 3.
  - c. To the northwest, our border with the ward containing the densely populated areas of Olivers Battery and Badger Farm follows, for much of its length, historic footpaths.
  - d. Our western boundary with Hursley continues south following well-established paths.
  - e. The southern boundary of our parish was adjusted in 1985 to recognise the development of Otterbourne and this change remains appropriate.
  - f. The rural nature of much of our parish is enhanced and protected by the inclusion within the parish of two important Local Gaps: the Winchester-Compton Street local gap to the north and the Otterbourne-Southdown local gap to the south. See "Winchester District Local Plan Part 1 - Joint Core Strategy" Policy CP18.
5. Our district ward currently falls entirely within Hampshire County Downlands Division. It would be convenient if our ward continued to be contained in a single county division.
  6. Our district ward, Compton & Otterbourne, has, since 2007, shared almost the same boundary as the ecclesiastical benefice of Compton, Hursley and Otterbourne. It would be convenient for these three parishes to continue to lie within the same district ward.

We have looked at four possible new possible combinations of our parish with neighbouring parishes in the light of the desired changed ratio of electors to elected members.

Though each option has its pros and cons, a new ward with working title “Downlands South”, combining the existing ward of Compton & Otterbourne with Olivers Battery & Badger Farm

- preserves existing links between parishes which are at present in the same ward,
- works out the best numerically: its electorate would neatly justify a three-member ward,
- respects natural geographic boundaries,
- is entirely contained within the County’s Downlands Division.

More details of this, and the other possible combinations we examined, are shown on the following pages.

Adrian Walmsley  
Chairman

22 October 2014.

## Methodology

Examine possible ward configurations of our parish with neighbouring parishes, using the projected number of electors per district councillor, as shown in the adjacent table.

	Electors	District Councillors	Electors per councillor
Current	93886	57	1647
Projected	100500	45	2233

The projected change in electorate for the wards in question is small (under 5%) and has been ignored.

## Current wards

The “councillors 2014” column shows the number of councillors each parish “deserves” based on its electorate, totalled by ward. It’s shown to the nearest one-tenth of a councillor (hence the small rounding errors in some totals).

The “councillors 2015” column shows the effect of the changed ratio of electors per District Councillor.

Parishes by Ward	Electors	Councillors (2014)	Councillors (2015)
<b>▼ Colden Common and Twyford</b>	<b>4512</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Colden Common	3223	2.0	1.4
Twyford	1289	0.8	0.6
<b>▼ Compton and Otterbourne</b>	<b>3427</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Compton and Shawford	1405	0.9	0.6
Hursley	743	0.5	0.3
Otterbourne	1279	0.8	0.6
<b>▼ Olivers Battery and Badger Farm</b>	<b>3318</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Badger Farm	1975	1.2	0.9
Olivers Battery	1343	0.8	0.6
<b>► St Luke</b>	<b>4456</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>15713</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>

## Scenario 1 (Preferred) - a new “Downlands South” Ward

**Pros:** A new “Downlands South” ward formed by merging Compton & Otterbourne with Olivers Battery & Badger Farm ward is exactly the right size for a 3 member ward.

Existing intra-ward links between neighbouring parishes are preserved. Both Olivers Battery (pre 1956) and parts of Badger Farm (pre 1985) were part of the historic parish of Compton.

Parishes by Ward	Electors	Councillors (2014)	Councillors (2015)
<b>▼ Colden Common and Twyford</b>	<b>4512</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Colden Common	3223	2.0	1.4
Twyford	1289	0.8	0.6
<b>► St Luke</b>	<b>4456</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>▼ Downlands South</b>	<b>6745</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Badger Farm	1975	1.2	0.9
Compton and Shawford	1405	0.9	0.6
Hursley	743	0.5	0.3
Olivers Battery	1343	0.8	0.6
Otterbourne	1279	0.8	0.6
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>15713</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>

The new “Downlands South” ward lies entirely within the County’s Downlands division, so we already all share our County Councillor.

Colden Common & Twyford remains unchanged and has the right population to become a 2 member ward.

**Cons:** Badger Farm and Olivers Battery have a different profile to the rest of the proposed new ward. They are more built-up and fall in CIL Charging Zone 2 (Winchester Town), whereas Compton & Otterbourne ward lies in CIL Charging Zone 3 (Market Towns & Rural Areas).

## Scenario 2 -Twyford joins Compton & Otterbourne

**Pros:** The enlarged Compton & Otterbourne justifies 2 members. Twyford and Shawford have a common interest in the Itchen Navigation and Water Meadows.

Many Twyford residents use Shawford Station and Compton & Shawford residents use Twyford surgery.

**Cons:** Twyford and Colden Common are neighbours on the eastern side of the Itchen and have a shared interest in the B3335/B3354. They may not wish to be placed in separate wards.

The enlarged Compton & Otterbourne would be split across two County divisions, and straddle the natural geographical barrier of the Itchen Navigation which forms the current ward and parish boundary.

Although the enlarged Compton & Otterbourne would warrant two members, this arrangement does not address Olivers Battery & Badger Farm. It would also leave the challenge of finding another parish with which Colden Common could be combined into a new ward.

Parishes by Ward	Electors	Councillors (2014)	Councillors (2015)
<b>▼ Colden Common and Twyford</b>	<b>3223</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Colden Common	3223	2.0	1.4
<b>▼ Compton and Otterbourne</b>	<b>4716</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Compton and Shawford	1405	0.9	0.6
Hursley	743	0.5	0.3
Otterbourne	1279	0.8	0.6
Twyford	1289	0.8	0.6
<b>▼ Olivers Battery and Badger Farm</b>	<b>3318</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Badger Farm	1975	1.2	0.9
Olivers Battery	1343	0.8	0.6
<b>► St Luke</b>	<b>4456</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>15713</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>

## Scenario 3 -Olivers Battery joins Compton & Otterbourne

**Pros:** An enlarged Compton & Otterbourne would justify 2 members.

If Badger Farm could be added to St Luke, that resulting ward would justify three members.

Olivers Battery has historic links with Compton, from which it split in 1956. It used to look to Compton for school, church and the sports club.

**Cons:** OB and BF may not wish to be split into separate wards.

Parishes by Ward	Electors	Councillors (2014)	Councillors (2015)
<b>▼ Colden Common and Twyford</b>	<b>4512</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Colden Common	3223	2.0	1.4
Twyford	1289	0.8	0.6
<b>▼ Compton and Otterbourne</b>	<b>4770</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>
Compton and Shawford	1405	0.9	0.6
Hursley	743	0.5	0.3
Olivers Battery	1343	0.8	0.6
Otterbourne	1279	0.8	0.6
<b>▼ St Luke</b>	<b>6431</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>
Badger Farm	1975	1.2	0.9
St Luke	4456	2.7	2.0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>15713</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>

Present day Olivers Battery has much stronger links with Badger Farm. Its residents use the facilities at the Badger Farm complex (superstore, doctors surgery etc), and Badger Farm residents use the shops in Olivers Battery.

Although Badger Farm is adjacent to Stanmore (St. Luke's Ward), there appear to be no roads or even paths that cross the boundary between the two, so Badger Farm residents are more likely to look to Olivers Battery than to St. Lukes.

## Scenario 4 - New Lower Itchen Valley Ward

**Pros:** The resulting 3 member ward would facilitate the shared interest of C&S and Twyford in the Navigation and Water Meadows.

By adding Hursley to OB+BF, the resulting ward (almost) justifies two members.

**Cons:** The ward would be divided by the natural geographic barrier of the Itchen Valley. For example, the Itchen Navigation forms part of the eastern boundary of the “Test and Itchen” area in Hampshire’s Countryside Access Plan.

The ward would be split across two Hampshire County Divisions: Winchester Downlands and Itchen Valley.

We are unaware of much interaction between either Twyford and Otterbourne, or between Colden Common and Otterbourne or Compton & Shawford. Hursley’s links with OB+BF are unknown.

Parishes by Ward	Electors	Councillors (2014)	Councillors (2015)
<b>Olivers Battery and Badger Farm</b>	<b>4061</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Badger Farm	1975	1.2	0.9
Hursley	743	0.5	0.3
Olivers Battery	1343	0.8	0.6
<b>St Luke</b>	<b>4456</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Lower Itchen Valley</b>	<b>7196</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>
Colden Common	3223	2.0	1.4
Compton and Shawford	1405	0.9	0.6
Otterbourne	1279	0.8	0.6
Twyford	1289	0.8	0.6
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>15713</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>