

HUNTINGDONSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the ELECTIONS PANEL held in the Council Chamber, Pathfinder House, St Mary's Street, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 3TN on Monday, 2nd October 2006.

PRESENT: Councillor D Harty – Chairman.
Councillors A N Gilbert and M F Newman.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors K Reynolds, T D Sanderson and J Taylor.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor P J Downes.

9. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Panel held on 22nd August 2006 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

10. MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor D Harty declared a personal interest in Minute No. 11 by virtue of his membership of Cambridgeshire County Council and St Neots Town Council.

Councillor M F Newman declared a personal interest in Minute No. 11 by virtue of his membership of Pidley-cum-Fenton Parish Council.

11. PARISH ELECTORAL REVIEW

Further to Minute No. 8, the Panel was acquainted with a report by the Head of Administration (a copy of which is appended in the Minute Book) detailing further issues for consideration as part of the preliminary stage of the parish electoral review of the District.

Consideration was given to the Council's approved scale of parish council representation which had been in existence since 1974. The Panel concluded that in the light of significant changes to the size of parishes over the years it was necessary to propose a new scale of parish council representation.

The Panel examined the electoral arrangements of the parishes in view of the proposed alteration of various parish boundaries, the proposed new scale of parish council representation and the predicated electorate growth in each parish as a result of dwelling completions. Members also considered the grouping of various parishes, including those with an electorate of less than 150.

Having been informed of the next stage of the consultation process with interested parties over a 12 week period, the Panel

RESOLVED

that the new scale of parish council representation, alteration of various parish boundaries and changes to electoral arrangements be published as draft proposals for public consultation.

Chairman