

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Electoral Arrangements Committee held on
Thursday, 11 December 2003

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs J Hughes – Chairman
Councillor Dr JA Heap – Vice-Chairman

Councillors: R Hall JA Nicholas
J Shepperson RT Summerfield
Mrs BE Waters

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence had been received.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor RT Summerfield declared a personal interest as the local member for Milton.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

On the nomination of Councillor JA Nicholas, seconded by Councillor Dr JA Heap, and there being no further nominations, it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs J Hughes be re-elected Chairman of the Electoral Arrangements Committee for the coming financial year.

4. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

On the nomination of Councillor Mrs J Hughes, seconded by Councillor JA Nicholas, and there being no further nominations, it was

RESOLVED that Councillor Dr JA Heap be re-appointed Vice-Chairman of the Electoral Arrangements Committee for the coming financial year.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chairman was authorised to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2003 as a correct record.

6. MILTON DETACHED

The Electoral Arrangements Committee, at its meeting of 25th March 2003, had agreed that a limited review be undertaken confined to the possibilities and consequences of the Milton Detached area, i.e. land primarily south of the A14, being either warded, parished without a Council or remaining as an unwarded part of Milton Parish. The Head of Legal Services had copied to members the information sent to stakeholders as part of the consultation exercise, including a notice published in the local paper. Letters had been sent to all residents in the Milton Detached area who were on the electoral roll. Two responses had been received.

The first response, from Milton Parish Council, supported the formation of a new Parish

for the Milton Detached area, with or without its own Parish Council or Parish Meeting. It was noted that there had not been any previous interest in local government from residents in the Milton Detached area.

The second response was from the Cambridgeshire County Council Education, Libraries and Heritage, noting that primary-aged children in the Milton Detached Area fell within the City catchment area for schools and would continue to do so regardless of the outcome of the review.

Members recalled that, at the previous meeting, the Chairman of Milton Parish Council had reported that residents of Milton Detached had no interest in being a separate ward. It was unlikely that a representative would stand for election for a warded seat, leaving the Parish Council one member short, but if the area remained unwarded, residents could still stand for Parish Council elections if they so wished. Residents were also free to approach the Parish Council if they had any concerns.

Members felt that it had been right to review the electoral arrangements for Milton Parish at this time, but noted that a more comprehensive electoral review would form part of the Arbury Camps development in the coming years. The Head of Legal Services was asked to convey the Committee's thanks to Milton Parish Council for bringing the matter to the Committee's attention.

The Electoral Arrangements Committee

AGREED that no further action be taken.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

7 (a) Cambourne

The Head of Legal Services reported that the order for the parish of Cambourne had been made, but that the electoral arrangements remained in draft form. Cambourne would become a parish on 1st April 2004.

The Meeting ended at 12.45 p.m.
