

**DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A period of not more than fifteen minutes shall be allowed at each ordinary meeting of the Council for the hearing of depositions from members of the public. Each deputation may be heard for a maximum of five minutes following which one Member of the Council, nominated by the Mayor, may speak in response. It shall then be moved by the Mayor and voted on without discussion that the deputation be thanked for attending and its subject matter noted.

Notification of one Deputation has been received. The spokesperson is entitled to speak for 5 minutes.

**Deputation concerning Hove Park Ward Neighbourhood Forum****(Spokesperson) – Mr. C. Hancox**

“As the chairman of the proposed Hove Park Ward Neighbourhood Forum I am confirming that we have applied to the council for the approval of the establishment of our Forum and our designated Neighbourhood Area.

We understand that the economic and culture committee intends to consider applications for the establishment of the Hove Station Neighbourhood forum and the Hove Station Designated Neighbourhood Area as well as the Hove Park Ward Forum and Designated Area at their June Meeting.

We will be asking the committee to reject the application of the proposed Hove Station forums area as it includes part of the proposed Hove Park Ward Forum’s area, for the following reasons.

1. The Hove Station and Hove Park Ward areas are wholly different in that the station area is mainly a Victorian and Edwardian city-centre neighbourhood whereas the Hove Park Ward area is mainly a inter-war and post-war suburban neighbourhood.
2. The two areas are geographically wholly separate from each other due to the separating effect of the railway: presumably the reason why the boundary commission fixed the boundary on this alignment.
3. The Hove Station Forum held a public meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014, where a substantial number of Hove Park Ward residents attending emphasised that they did not wish to be included in the Hove Station Forum Area and were establishing a forum for their own area.
4. The recently formed Hove Park Ward Neighbourhood Forum now has over 300 members from within the area. The Hove Station forum (formed 2012) has a membership from approx 62 properties, almost all resident from outside the boundaries of Hove Park Ward, yet wish to include a substantial part of Hove Park Ward Area within their proposed designated area which is contrary to the spirit of the Localism Act 2011 which seeks to promote direct neighbourhood representation on the local forum.”

**Reply from Councillor J. Kitcat, Leader of the Council**