

---

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

---

**2001 No. 4066**

**The Borough of Bedford (Electoral Changes) Order 2001**

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

- 1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Borough of Bedford (Electoral Changes) Order 2001.
- (2) This article and articles 2, 3, 8(2), 9 and 10 shall come into force—
- (a) for the purpose of proceedings preliminary, or relating, to any election to be held on 2nd May 2002, on the day after that on which it is made;
  - (b) for all other purposes, on 2nd May 2002.
- (3) Articles 6, 7 and 8(1) shall come into force—
- (a) for the purpose of proceedings preliminary, or relating, to the elections of parish councillors for the parishes of Bromham, Kempston Rural and Renhold to be held on 1st May 2003, on 15th October 2002; and
  - (b) for all other purposes, on 1st May 2003.
- (4) Articles 4 and 5 shall come into force—
- (a) for the purposes of proceedings preliminary, or relating, to the elections of parish councillors for the parishes of Eastcotts and Kempston to be held on 6th May 2004, on 15th October 2003; and
  - (b) for all other purposes, on 6th May 2004.
- (5) In this Order—
- “borough” means the borough of Bedford;
  - “existing”, in relation to a ward, means the ward as it exists on the date this Order is made; and

any reference to “the map” is a reference to the map prepared by the Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions marked “Map of the Borough of Bedford (Electoral Changes) Order 2001”, and deposited in accordance with regulation 27 of the Local Government Changes for England Regulations 1994(1).

**Wards of the borough of Bedford**

- 2.—(1) The existing wards of the borough(2) shall be abolished.
- (2) The borough shall be divided into twenty-six wards which shall bear the names set out in column (1) of Schedule 1.
- (3) The wards shall comprise the areas described in column (2) of that Schedule by reference to parishes or, where an area is not so described, the area designated on the map by reference to the name of the ward and demarcated by red lines; and the number of councillors to be elected for each ward shall be the number specified in respect of the ward in column (3) of that Schedule.

---

(1) S.I.1994/867, to which there are amendments not relevant to this Order.

(2) See the Borough of North Bedfordshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1979 (S.I. 1979/1663).

(4) Where a boundary is shown on the map as running along a road, railway line, footway, watercourse or similar geographical feature, it shall be treated as running along the centre line of the feature.

### **Elections of the council of Bedford**

**3.—**(1) Subject to the following provisions of this article, the election of councillors for wards of the borough shall be by thirds.

(2) Elections of all councillors for all wards of the borough shall be held simultaneously on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2002<sup>(3)</sup>.

(3) The councillors holding office for any ward of the borough immediately before 6th May 2002 shall retire on that date and the newly-elected councillors for those wards shall come into office on that date.

(4) The order of retirement of councillors shall be as set out in Schedule 2.

(5) Where the number of councillors elected in 2002 for any ward of the borough is two or more—

- (a) the first to retire shall, subject to paragraphs (6) and (7), be the councillor elected by the smallest number of votes; and
- (b) the second to retire shall, subject to those paragraphs, be the councillor elected by the next smallest number of votes.

(6) In the case of an equality of votes between any persons elected which makes it uncertain which of them is to retire in any year, the person to retire in that year shall be determined by lot.

(7) If an election of councillors for any ward is not contested, the person to retire in each year shall be determined by lot.

(8) Where under this article any question is to be determined by lot, the lot shall be drawn at the next practicable meeting of the council after the question has arisen and the drawing shall be conducted under the direction of the person presiding at the meeting.

(9) Except as otherwise provided in the preceding paragraphs of this article, the term of office of councillors shall be four years; and all councillors shall retire on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of councillors in the year of retirement and the newly-elected councillors shall come into office on the day on which their predecessors retire.

### **Wards of the parish of Eastcotts**

**4.** The parish of Eastcotts shall be divided into two parish wards which shall bear the names set out in column (1) of Schedule 3; each parish ward shall comprise the area of the borough ward specified in respect of the parish ward in column (2) of that Schedule; and the number of councillors to be elected for each parish ward shall be the number specified in respect of the parish ward in column (3) of that Schedule.

### **Wards of the parish of Kempston**

**5.—**(1) The existing wards of the parish of Kempston shall be abolished.

(2) The Parish of Kempston shall be divided into four parish wards which shall bear the names set out in column (1) of Schedule 4; each parish ward shall comprise the area of the borough ward specified in respect of the parish ward in column (2) of that Schedule; and the number of councillors

---

(3) For the ordinary day of election of councillors of local government areas, *see* section 37 of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (c. 2); amended by section 18(2) of the Representation of the People Act 1985 (c. 50) and section 17 of, and paragraphs 1 and 5 of Schedule 3 to, the Greater London Authority Act 1999 (c. 29).

to be elected for each parish ward shall be the number specified in respect of the parish ward in column (3) of that Schedule.

### **Wards of the parish of Kempston Rural**

6. The parish of Kempston Rural shall be divided into two parish wards which shall bear the names set out in column (1) of Schedule 5; each parish ward shall comprise the area of the borough ward specified in respect of the parish ward in column (2) of that Schedule; and the number of councillors to be elected for each parish ward shall be the number specified in respect of the parish ward in column (3) of that Schedule.

### **Wards of the parish of Renhold**

7. The parish of Renhold shall be divided into two parish wards which shall bear the names set out in column (1) of Schedule 6; each parish ward shall comprise the area of the borough ward specified in respect of the parish ward in column (2) of that Schedule; and the number of councillors to be elected for each parish ward shall be the number specified in respect of the parish ward in column (3) of that Schedule.

### **Numbers of parish councillors**

8.—(1) The number of parish councillors to be elected for the parish of Bromham shall be fourteen.

(2) The number of parish councillors to be elected for the parish of Elstow shall be nine.

### **Parish Elections**

9.—(1) The term of office of every parish councillor elected on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2000 for the parishes of Carlton and Chellington, Colmworth, Cople, Little Staughton, Pavenham, Roxton, Staploe and Stevington shall be three years.

(2) Elections of all parish councillors for the parishes of Bolnhurst and Keysoe, Dean and Shelton, Elstow, Harrold, Oakley, Odell, Podington, Riseley, Wilshamstead and Wymington and for the joint council for the parishes of Pertenhall and Swineshead shall be held simultaneously on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2002 and every fourth year after 2002.

(3) The ordinary elections of parish councillors for the parishes of Bletsoe, Felmersham, Milton Ernest, Ravensden, Renhold, Thurleigh and Wilden in 2002 shall not take place; and any such parish councillor holding office immediately before 2nd May 2002 who would, but for this paragraph, have retired on that date shall, unless he resigns his office or it otherwise becomes vacant, continue to hold office until the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2003.

(4) Elections of all parish councillors for the parishes of Bletsoe, Carlton and Chellington, Colmworth, Cople, Felmersham, Little Staughton, Milton Ernest, Pavenham, Ravensden, Renhold, Roxton, Staploe, Stevington, Thurleigh and Wilden, shall be held simultaneously on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2003 and every fourth year after 2003.

(5) Elections of all parish councillors for the parishes of Cardington and Eastcotts shall be held simultaneously on the ordinary day of election of councillors in 2004 and every fourth year after 2004.

(6) The term of office of parish councillors elected in accordance with paragraph 2, 4 or 5 above shall be four years; and they shall retire on the fourth day after the ordinary day of election of councillors in the year of retirement and the newly-elected councillors shall come into office on the day on which their predecessors retire.

---

**Status:** This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

---

(7) Rule 8 of the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) Rules 1986(4) (filling of casual vacancies) shall have effect, in the case of a casual vacancy occurring before 5th May 2003 in the office of a parish councillor for the parishes of Bletsoe, Felmersham, Milton Ernest, Ravensden, Renhold, Thurleigh and Wilden as if the references in paragraphs (1) and (4) for that rule to the day on which that councillor would regularly have retired were a reference to 5th May 2003.

**Revocation**

**10.** The Borough of North Bedfordshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1979 is hereby revoked.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions

*Alan Whitehead*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,  
Department for Transport, Local Government  
and the Regions

20th December 2001

---

(4) S.I. [1986/2215](#), to which there are amendments not relevant to this Order.