



Chair: Lee McCarren, [REDACTED], Bolton, [REDACTED]

9 October 2021

I am writing on behalf of, and with the authority of, the Smithills Estate Residents Association (SERA).

At present most of The Smithills Estate¹ properties are in Smithills Ward, but a few, Walker Fold, Edge Lane, Newfields on Matchmoor Lane and Slack Hall on Burnt Edge Lane, are in Horwich North East Ward. Following a consultation with all those who would be affected, we wish to request that this situation is remedied by your current Boundary Review.

Residents of Walker Fold, Edge Lane, Newfields on Matchmoor Lane and Slack Hall on Burnt Edge Lane are all represented by SERA and **wish to be included in Smithills ward rather than Horwich North East Ward.**

As residents of a rural location **we function as a community and are generally affected as a community** by the same issues such as anti-social behaviour, and traffic nuisance. As such we feel that it would be an advantage if all residents were represented by the councillors of one ward rather than two.

The Councillors representing Smithills ward on Bolton MBC tend to be much more responsive to appeals for assistance and support from their Smithills Estate constituents than are the Councillors representing Horwich North East. We believe this is because The Estate residents who live in Smithills ward are relatively more numerous, and also geographically closer to the main body of the ward the councillors represent.

We believe that the residents of Walker Fold, Edge Lane, Newfields on Matchmoor Lane and Slack Hall on Burnt Edge Lane would be better served by local councillors if they were part of Smithills ward, and that the resulting increased numbers of Smithills Estate residents in Smithills ward would encourage Smithills councillors to be even more responsive to the needs of both them and the existing Estate residents in Smithills ward. The few properties at Walker Fold, Edge Lane, Newfields on Matchmoor Lane and Slack Hall on Burnt Edge Lane are geographically isolated from the rest of Horwich North East ward, and their occupiers are consequently less likely to be of interest to Horwich North East Bolton MBC councillors.

If granted, we believe this request to move the properties of Walker Fold, Edge Lane, Newfields on Matchmoor Lane and Slack Hall on Burnt Edge Lane into Smithills Ward would be of great benefit to the community of The Smithills Estate.

Yours sincerely

Sheila Jones
On behalf of Smithills Estate Residents Association

¹ A rural area of Bolton encompassing Smithills Moor that is owned by the Woodland Trust