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From: David Brackin <chair@fulmervillage.uk>
Sent: 12 August 2022 13:53
To: reviews
Subject: Buckinghamshire Boundaries Review

Categories: Submissions, [REDACTED]

I am the chairman of Fulmer Parish Council and write on behalf of the Council to respond to the latest consultation on ward boundaries for Buckinghamshire.

Fulmer is a small but strong rural community that is an excellent example of the kind of cohesive community that the Commission seeks to protect in its stated objectives. Many of our residents were horrified at the last-minute Bucks Council proposals that the parish should be split between two proposed unitary wards - one containing Stoke Poges and the other containing Denham - and we would emphasise to the Commission that the removal of 84 electors would do much more harm to cohesion than the good provided by the balancing of numbers.

Residents in Fulmer have strong ties with Gerrards Cross. Many travel through the town on a daily basis to commute from the train station or to use the local shops. The Fulmer church of St James and the Gerrards Cross church of St James are jointly run with a common team and are known as "The Two St James". There is a strong youth football club - the Gerrards Cross and Fulmer Football Club with over 600 members that play at sites in both Gerrards Cross and Fulmer.

Fulmer and Denham - which can be seen as a collection of smaller villages - also share a common outlook, and similar issues.

Fulmer also has a good affinity with Hedgerley although weaker road links than with Gerrards Cross and Denham. The core village is a similarly pretty traditional village setting performing well in the Best Kept Village competitions. The Black Horse in Fulmer and the White Horse in Hedgerley have a long parallel tradition as the two focal watering holes of these rural communities.

While Fulmer works to have good relations with all its neighbours it has weaker links to Stoke Poges (Stoke Common on the boundary is well-used by residents), Wexham (residents will use the health and well-being facilities there) and The Ivers (Black Park and Pinewood Studios are shared issues).

Overall we support the current Commission proposal regarding the inclusion of Fulmer with Gerrards Cross and Denham and would recommend naming this ward "Gerrards Cross, Denham and Fulmer" to further prevent the subsuming of the identity of the village into these larger neighbours.

I would be pleased if you would consider our comments as you make your decision.

kind regards

David

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David Brackin
Chairman, Fulmer Parish Council
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