

Holt, Nicole

From: Bradley Thomas <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 22 March 2022 08:29
To: reviews
Subject: Wychavon District Council review
Attachments: Conservative Submission 2022.docx

Categories: Submissions, Simon

Good morning,

Yesterday I encountered multiple errors whilst attempting to submit comments to the review on behalf of the Wychavon Conservative Group.

Please find out comments attached.

Regards,
Bradley Thomas

Bradley Thomas
Leader of Wychavon District Council
Councillor for Harvington & Norton ward | Wychavon District Council
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Wychavon District Council Boundary Review

Response of the Conservative Group

Droitwich Spa

Droitwich is a sub-urban town of built up housing, high street access with park and green access spaced throughout. Residents have a strong focus on footpaths and travel links to the Droitwich train station and town center.

The Copcut Rise estate, as well as cul de sacs to the north of Droitwich like St Augustine's, Swan Drive and Impney Way, share more than a streetscape and urban design with Droitwich, sharing its physical, social and service infrastructure. The physical boundaries that previously separated these areas from Droitwich have been blurred in appearance and function by road and river crossings to create new neighbourhoods of an established town.

1. Droitwich Spa has an increasing population and this is going to continue as the developments at the Raven, the British Legion, Netherwich Basin and the Baxenden Site etc come to fruition over the next few years. It would therefore seem somewhat irrational that the number of wards and councillors in the town is going to reduce.

2. There seem to be conflicting opinions about whether Copcut and/or Hampton Lovett should become part of the Droitwich Spa wards. The boundaries between these two places and the town have become blurred.

Hartlebury & Dodderhill

That in respect of the proposed Hartlebury and Dodderhill 2-member ward, the proposal would create a ward that would be too large. The two areas have distinct communities with little commonality. The preference would be 2 single member wards.

Specific points are:

- Doverdale Park homes are integrated with Hampton Lovett, using the village hall for meetings and social events and the church for weddings, funerals and services. It has no community links with Droitwich. (Para 51&52 in the report)
- The employment area around Pointon Way and Wassage Way also have connections with Hampton & Westwood PC in that relationships are being forged to improve the environment and to provide funding for local projects.
- The Parish Council already has 7 councillors made up of 4 from Hampton Lovett and 3 from Westwood, not 5 as mentioned in para 104. The proposal for 2 Councillors each from Hampton and Wassage and 1 from Westwood is unacceptable if the village is to remain a cohesive unit. In any case as far as we know, there are no people living in "Wassage".

Broadway & Wickhamford

That in respect of the proposed Broadway and Wickhamford 2-member ward, the proposal would create a ward that would be too large and contain unrelated communities. Similarly, the proposed Bredon 2-member ward would be too large and contain unrelated communities. Splitting each of these proposed wards into 2 single member wards would be preferable and a way of achieving this whilst maintaining electoral equality and effective and convenient local government has been identified as follows:

- A Bredon ward, consisting of the parishes of Bredon's Norton and Bredon;
- A South Bredon Hill ward, consisting of the parishes of Kemerton, Overbury, Conderton, Beckford, Ashton under Hill and Sedgeberrow*;

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- An Elmley Castle and Childswickham ward, consisting of the parishes of Elmley Castle, Netherton, Hinton on the Green, Aston Somerville, Wickhamford, Childswickham and part of Broadway parish north of the railway line / former railway line;
- A Broadway ward, consisting of the remaining part of the parish of Broadway, south of the railway line / former railway line.

*The proposal to move Sedgeberrow to the proposed Bredon ward would only be acceptable if the proposed Bredon ward was split into 2 single member wards as outlined above.

Evesham South

That in respect of the proposed border between the new Evesham South and The Hamptons wards, it is suggested that the Fairfield Road area off Cheltenham Road be reallocated to the Evesham South ward from The Hamptons ward and the Thistledown estate area further south to be reallocated to The Hamptons ward from the Evesham South ward. The current LGBCE proposal would sever an identifiable community in the Fairfield Road area containing a through route and services for the wider community whereas the Thistledown area only has a road connection with Cheltenham Road. The proposal could also remove the need to have the 'Hospital' parish ward.

We have no specific comments about other wards at this phase in the consultation.