



Electoral Ward proposal by Pelton Parish Council

Proposal

Three County Councillors to look after an Electoral Ward to include Pelton, Ouston and Urpeth Parishes and Pelton Fell. The three parishes have historical and current community ties which will be complemented by the addition of Pelton Fell to meet the criteria for the review.

History between Pelton, Ouston and Urpeth Parishes linked to Pelton Fell

The adjacent communities of Pelton, Ouston and Urpeth have a long history dating from Mediaeval Times and earlier. The main occupations were in mining and agriculture. The comparatively primitive mining methods used before the Industrial Revolution produced not only enough coal for home use, but also some for the London market. The early waggonways with horse-drawn waggons running on rails took coal from our area to the staithes. The Industrial Revolution created a demand for more coal, engines and machines were developed to remove water, provide better ventilation and operate winding engines. Haulage underground and on the surface was revolutionised and the coal industry accelerated in our county.

Our villages mushroomed from 1835 onwards when Pelton Colliery was opened at Pelton Fell. Families came from all over the country. The flourishing communities thus formed were threatened by the dwindling supplies of coal in the 1960s and collieries were closed. Families moved away to find work in other mining areas. Workers who stayed here found occupation in factories, shops, businesses and other trades. The old colliery housing was demolished and replaced by new Council and private houses. Areas of deprivation were identified in our communities and our Councillors have fought long and hard to help those in need.

Community Links and Identities between Pelton, Ouston and Urpeth Parishes linked to Pelton Fell

1. Remembrance Sunday Services are held at different times throughout the day so that all Memorial Services can be represented by Civilians and Military Personnel.
2. Partnership working- Community Centres within the 3 parishes all work together to ensure any national events are not held at the same time/day.
3. Community Emergency Plan (CEP)- presently working on a joined up CEP with all three parishes as they are on different electricity grids.
4. Neighbourhood Plan Area- All three parishes have agreed to work together on a Neighbourhood Plan and the designated area includes Pelton, Ouston and Urpeth parishes.
5. Play areas in all three parishes were improved as part of one project by local County Councillors to share the Section 106 funding fairly.
6. Transport routes by local bus companies link the parishes and Pelton Fell as part of a bus route.