

Shropshire

Personal Details:

Name: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: Nash and Boraston PCC (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Southern Shropshire

I am writing with two hats on - one as a Boraston resident and the other as [REDACTED] parish of Nash and Boraston - to object in the strongest terms to the proposal to move the two civil parishes from Clee Hill Electoral Division to Cleobury Mortimer. My husband, Philip, and I live right on the boundary between the civil parishes of Nash and Boraston. We are Borastonians by only a few metres; the field on the opposite side of our little lane is in Nash. I understand that the primary purpose of the boundary review is to even up the numbers in each Electoral Division, but that doesn't take account of how communities are aligned or how residents feel.

I attended a public meeting organised by Nash Parish Council on June 6th, where concerns were expressed about the poor quality of the consultation and the fact that Nash and Boraston barely got a mention. Because a decision was taken by Shropshire Council not to write to Parish Councils and Parish Meetings, the Chairman of Boraston Parish Meeting only mentioned the boundary changes in passing at our AGM the previous night and said they wouldn't have much impact on our parish. I was fooled to begin with because the impact isn't apparent until you delve deeper and look at the "before" and "after" maps.

Like most other Boraston residents [REDACTED] and I do most of our shopping and use the doctor's surgery in Tenbury Wells, and we only visit Cleobury Mortimer a handful of times each year. As far as electoral representation goes, we have far more in common with the only other 2 neighbouring parishes on the Shropshire side of the County boundary (ie. Nash and Burford) - so there is a strong argument that all three should remain together.

I know from attending the extraordinary meeting arranged by Nash Parish Council on June 6th that 100% of Nash residents are vehemently opposed to joining Cleobury Division. I'm also aware that some Boraston residents who live further away from the parish boundary than us might be less concerned about it. However - if Nash and Boraston move, decisions affecting Clee Hill and/or Burford in the future will have a direct

bearing on us; and the reverse will also be true, ie. decisions made in Nash or Boraston will impact on residents in Clee Hill and Burford. Putting everything else aside, as Churchwarden of the combined ecclesiastical parish, the thing that concerns me most is the risk that - depending how the numbers play out – the two civil parishes of Nash and Boraston could end up in a different Electoral Divisions. There isn't much overlap between the two congregations other than when we get together at major festivals like Christmas and Easter, when services alternate between Nash and Boraston Churches. I would hate to see the two communities facing in different directions when I have worked so hard to bring people together and establish common ground.

Attached Documents:

None attached