

Worcestershire

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Comment text:

Related subject: Bell Heath, Parish of Belbroughton

To Whom It May Concern,

We pen this letter with a sense of urgent appeal to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, regarding the current Boundary Review proposal. This proposal suggests the displacement of Bell Heath and Madely Heath into the Woodvale District, a motion that stirs deep concern and heartfelt objection within our unified community.

For centuries, the intertwined destinies of Bell Heath, Madeley Heath, and Fairfield have been inextricably linked with Belbroughton Parish. Historical records, including the Domesday Book and legislative acts from 1799 regarding the enclosure of commons, bear witness to a unity of these communities that dates back to the era of King Coenwulf in 817. These lands, have been together and share history, communal values, and our collective heritage.

The notion of separating Bell Heath and Madely Heath from this historic ensemble is akin to reimagining a Grade One listed building; it's not merely a modification but a detriment to its very essence. The areas of Bell Heath, Madeley Heath, represent more than geographical entities. They share a rich community and cultural narrative.

The community of Bell Heath and Madely Heath use and are essential parts of the sports, medical and education in Belbroughton. As residents we use the pubs and shops as well as joining the parish council in community celebrations. The residents of these two hamlets feel very much a part of Belbroughton.

The road and footpath links and signage clearly show this.

The protection of fundamental rights enshrined in Law by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we find ourselves in opposition to the proposed boundary review. We argue this not just as a matter of principle but as guardians of the values and the foundations of law.

We object under Article 12, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation" speaks to the sanctity of one's home. We find these principles that are disrupted when arbitrary boundaries undermine the community and character of our homes and private lives. The demarcation lines, though drawn on maps, extend into the fabric of our daily existence, impacting the sanctuary of our communities and our sense of belonging. Article 17 asserts everyone's right to own property, individually or collectively, which is directly threatened by the boundary review. This boundary will result in material value impact. This proposed change doesn't just shift borders; it potentially deprives individuals of the value of their homes and deprives them of access to their communities of shared spaces, undermining the foundation upon which our collective identity is built. Article 25, highlights the necessity of an adequate standard of living, which includes access to housing and medical care among others. The boundary review risks rending the social fabric, potentially displacing individuals and affecting their access to these essential services. In a world that already presents numerous challenges to well-being, we must nurture our community's resilience by ensuring stability and access to fundamental needs. Bell Heath belonging within Belbroughton represents sports, medical and educational access and community. Article 26 champions the right to education, a right that could be compromised by the boundary review. Local education is the bedrock of thriving communities. Restructuring boundaries may lead to disruptions in schooling, access to educational facilities, and the shared cultural and social experiences that are integral to learning environments. It is with these considerations in mind that we urge a reconsideration of the proposed boundary review. to place Bell Heath and Madely Heath in particular back with the historic, and essential Belbroughton identity they have had since 827 AD. Our commitment should lie in fostering communities where rights are not just respected in theory or in lines on paper but where the Local Government Boundary Commission for England see and respects the human impact of their work. Our plea to the Commission is not merely a formal objection but a heartfelt invitation to recognize and honor the profound historical and cultural significance of maintaining the unity of Belbroughton Parish. To alter its boundaries is to diminish its identity, akin to obscuring a masterwork behind an opaque veil. In conclusion, we respectfully urge the Commission to consider our objection with the solemnity it deserves. It is not just a matter of preserving lines on a map, but safeguarding the soul of a community whose history is a beacon of shared identity and enduring pride.

Attached Documents:

None attached