

Cheshire East

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Organisation Name: Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

Related subject: Ollerton with Marthall Parish Council / Chelford Ward

Ollerton with Marthall parish is a rural parish between Chelford and Knutsford. The current Chelford Ward serves several communities along A537, the primary transport route through the Ward, creating easy transport links between the parishes and a shared interest in highway safety matters along the route. Residents have easy access to the range of services and facilities in the neighbouring parish of Chelford including shops and railway station. The two parishes share a bus link allowing access between the parishes using public transport. Furthermore, footpaths and bridleways allow easy access on foot between the two parishes.

In recent years, the parishes of Chelford, Ollerton with Marthall, Peover Superior and Snelson have worked collaboratively on common issues (e.g. the commissioning of a joint traffic studies and planning consultant reports in response to local issues) which demonstrates similar outlooks between the parishes and that effective governance is being achieved.

The “Cheshire East Electoral Review 2023-24: Warding Proposal Report (V4, 18 Feb 2024)” document suggests the transfer of Ollerton with Marthall parish to the Mobberley Ward on the grounds that, “The issues Ollerton with Marthall faces are more similar to those for Great Warford...”. It is interesting that the primary potential grounds for similarity is the poor provision of planning enforcement action by Cheshire East Council. Both parishes have a number of long-standing, complex, planning enforcement matters which, if these were to all be allocated to a single Ward Councillor, would be excessively burdensome to that individual given the strong local feelings regarding each issue and the numerous approaches by residents in respect of each matter.

Ollerton with Marthall Parish consists of a main A-road artery through the parish with a number of junctions to smaller roads serving the rural community and onwards into the wider area. This is a common pattern to other parishes within the existing Chelford Ward, allowing similar issues to be represented effectively

across the Ward. Great Warford, in contrast, has a network of smaller rural roads running through the parish with a differing dynamic and range of issues.

Ollerton with Marthall Parish has links to other parishes within the existing Chelford Ward through school links. Children from Ollerton with Marthall parish typically attend Peover Superior Primary School forming social links to the other parishes within the Ward. Ollerton with Marthall has ecclesiastical links to Chelford as the churches belong to the same benefice, again, creating social cohesion between the communities.

The elector forecasts contained within the “CE Electoral Review: Electorate Forecasts Technical Report – Appendix 1 (V3, 25 Sept 2023)” document also shows that the existing Chelford Ward already meets, very closely, the target average elector number, therefore, already provides cohesive and effective governance within the target numerical parameters.

Attached Documents:

None attached