

Barnsley

Personal Details:


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Comment text:

See attached

Attached Documents:

- 0000576_202409041130.pdf



Review Officer (Barnsley)
LGBCE
PO Box 133
Blyth
NE24 9FE

Date: 30/08/24

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re Boundary Commission, Barnsley, South Yorkshire Review

I was made aware of Barnsley Council's proposal to move Stainborough Parish from the Penistone East ward into a new 'rural' Dodworth, Stainborough & Tankersley ward, at an extraordinary Stainborough Parish Council meeting on the 8th of August 2024.

I would like to register my **objection** to this proposal for the reasons below;

- A. Numerically, Stainborough is a small rural parish of 350 electorates, with a strong community identity and we are both supportive of and proud of this. In comparison Dodworth have 10,400 and Tankersley 1,900 electorate. With such a difference in size, coupled with our parishes rural nature, my concern would be that any representation would not be of any relevance if we were merged onto this new proposed ward and most importantly our needs as a small rural Parish would not align with those of the more commercial and industrial make up of Dodworth or Tankersley.
- B. Stainborough Parish, unfortunately does not have community ties or interests, nor does it identify with either Dodworth or Tankersley, either currently or historically. I understand that the Boundaries Commission recognised that High Hoyland had strong ties to the rural parishes in Penistone East and that Silkstone Common had strong ties with Silkstone and both had limited ties with Dodworth and I hope the commission also recognise that the same applies to Stainborough Parish having strong ties both historically and currently with Penistone East
- C. The community of Dodworth is predominantly urban and Tankersley alongside Dodworth both have industrial sites with Stainborough and Hood Green being in contrast a quiet rural Parish. Being part of the Penistone East Ward, which consists of eight other similar small rural Parishes means that similar issues and debates are raised and resolved amongst similar Parishes with similar rural needs. Local councillors in Penistone East Ward recognise and support our rural concerns but this would change and may not be the case if these proposals are approved and we are moved out of the rural Penistone East ward.
- D. As a village our ties are and have always been clearly with Penistone as a Town and its immediate rural areas, with the village's children attending Primary Schools at

Silkstone Common & Silkstone and Senior School at Penistone. Our GPs Surgery are based at Penistone with branch surgeries in Thurgoland & Silkstone and our closest Post Offices are at Silkstone and Oxspring. Our largest Supermarket being Tesco in Penistone and our local Churches being Silkstone, Thurgoland and Penistone, again reinforcing our links to the Penistone East Ward as none of these services involve Dodworth or Tankersley.

- E. With reference to public transport there is no link with Dodworth or Tankersley at all, but our local buses go directly to Penistone again re iterating our ties with the Penistone East ward.
- F. The greater part of our Parish lies within farmland and Green belt. The Rural nature of the area being evidenced further by the location of Wentworth Castle and its magnificent, listed gardens, managed by the National Trust and the Ancient woodlands of Bagger Wood managed by the Woodland Trust. In contrast, Tankersley and Dodworth are not of the same nature and in fact both are adjacent to and offer direct access to the M1 Motorway. To add the word Rural to the name of the proposed new ward therefore does not seem descriptively accurate when the greater majority of the two areas that it is proposed to link Stainborough and Hood Green to, are in fact not rural.
- G. I understand that the current proposal was not the first or the second suggestion put forward by BMBC but the third,. This would surely add to the Parishes objections as it surely points to the fact that BMBC do not actually, for whatever reason, think that this is an obvious, natural, and compatible option or it would surely have been the first-choice proposal.
- H. I also understand that this process initially began in 2023, yet the villagers of Stainborough and Hood Green were only allowed to be notified of this on the 8th of August 2024. With a deadline of the first week in September for any objections to be lodged, this has given the Parish Council and residents very little time, especially during a holiday period, to put forward objections, which seems slightly unfair. I would however suspect that even given such a short space of time that there will be a sizeable number of objections as there was a unanimous vote at the Parish Council meeting where everyone whole heartedly objected to this proposal. I would certainly expect that there will be more than the three objections that we are led to believe were submitted by High Hoyland prior to their objections being considered and upheld by the Boundaries Commission. As such I would hope that our objections would also be accepted as similarly valid and the proposal rejected accordingly.

For the reasons listed above which are not exhaustive, I would therefore like to confirm that I **object** to the proposal of Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council to move the Parish of Stainborough out of Penistone East Ward into proposed a new ward of Dodworth, Stainborough & Tankersley.

