

# Cheshire East

## Personal Details:

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**Organisation Name:** Councillor for Tytherington (CEC and MTC) (District or county councillor)

## Comment text:

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Professor Mellors

I am writing directly to you to voice my concerns about the warding proposals for Macclesfield, especially Tytherington.

I am one of the sitting Councillors for Tytherington Ward but am sending this, hopefully, without "an axe to grind" as I am 74 years old and nearing the end of my political career. I probably will not stand again.

My "Independent group" has discussed this boundary change at length and there was talk of a door-to-door campaign and leaflet drop. I believe that an email to you personally would be more helpful.

Some of the draft recommendations are erroneous, some are based on information that has been given to you. As Sir Robert Armstrong was accused, in 1986, of being "economical with the truth" here, in the warding proposals there are half-truths.

Cheshire East Council (CEC) debated and voted on this three times (including full council). In democratic votes they decided to leave Tytherington Ward well alone (except the addition of the area south of The Silk Road being added).

After the submission of the CEC proposal, locally a political pressure group became highly active and campaigned exhaustively against the CEC proposal.

If Tytherington was reduced to one Councillor there would be a variance of 12%. We were advised at our CEC meetings that this variance was impossible and unacceptable.

#### THE SILK ROAD

In (106) there is mention of The Silk Road. The pressure group believe that this area should all go to Bollington. I wish to point out that Kingsfield Park, Tytherington Business Park/Village (TBP) and Mulberry Park are new builds and have no historical significance whatsoever. All look towards Macclesfield and have no desire to be classed as part of Bollington. The small children go to Marlborough Primary School, Tytherington (plus nursery) where they can safely walk or cycle on paths without touching Manchester Road. There is a private nursery on TBP. The older children will attend Tytherington High School (THS) that can be reached, again, without needing to cross a major road. This is an excellent school that I will refer to in my comments on Bollinbrook. You talk of The Springwood Estate. There simply is no such place. Springwood Way is in two halves, not joined up (an administrative error years ago). That whole area, as I say above, is Kingsfield Park (plus a little bit near the Beefeater pub/hotel, The Springwood Park), TBP (note: will this be renamed "Bollington Business Park if this proposal is successful?) You also talk of "electors east of Tytherington Lane". As Tytherington Lane runs from The Silk Road down to Manchester Road this would include all the properties mentioned including Mulberry Park.

#### CENTRAL WARD ADDITIONS

You are talking of "electors south of Tytherington School" (113). Are you aware that THS shares and entry/exit with Beech Farm Drive? Does this not make things messy administratively? There is also a new estate, The Kings Quarter, that has been built on the old Kings School playing fields. This doesn't get a mention in your proposals that I can see? At the back of the estate, off Wightmans Avenue, there are steps up onto Northgate Avenue, which leads to Beech Lane and then THS. This estate isn't Bollinbrook and isn't Central Ward. Have you considered this estate? All the roads north of Coare Street would definitely prefer to stay in Tytherington.

#### BOLLINBROOK

Perhaps the most contentious of the proposals. With respect, I do wonder which residents you spoke to in Bollinbrook. The feeling that they would prefer to be part of Broken Cross and Upton is certainly not the feeling I get. The only arguments I can see mentioned are: 1. The children of Bollinbrook Primary attend a feeder school for Fallibroome Academy. Therefore they look towards Broken Cross and Upton. THS, as said previously, is an excellent school. Many Bollinbrook parents chose to send their children there after Bollinbrook Primary (their freedom of choice). I just did a google map search. The Packhorse to Fallibroome, walking, 1.4 miles, The Packhorse to THS 0.6 miles. Half the distance! 2. You mention the river Bollin and railway line. There is a footpath/cycle path from Bollinbrook across The Riverside Park, crossing the Bollin on a substantial bridge and then going under the railway beside the Park offices, car park and toilets out onto Beechwood Mews. Across a controlled crossing and you are at THS.

There are other things to mention:

1. (113) "Hibel Road is not a physical barrier" (4 lane road) (107) "Community ties between the Springwood Estate (sic) and the area of Bollington north of The Silk Road" (fast 4 lane highway with no physical barrier) and yet (111) says "Chester Road and Congleton Road ...clear, identifiable boundaries" (both 2 lane roads).
2. Bollinbrook has no places of worship yet Tytherington has Tytherington Family Worship, a thriving church holding 2 services every Sunday, dementia groups, coffee mornings, mothers and toddlers groups and so on. By alienating Bollinbrook from the Tytherington Community it will damage the spirit engendered over the years.
3. Tytherington has Rugby Drive playing fields (not mentioned in the recommendations) plus the football pitches on Summerlea Close, Beech Hall School and Sandwich Drive. Tytherington Juniors Football Club, the driving force of football in Tytherington has 67 junior teams. Bollinbrook has none. Again, if Bollinbrook is split off there will be an "us and them".
4. Bollinbrook has just the Packhorse Club (rescued from bankruptcy 5 years ago), The British Flag on Coare Street (soon to close) and the Ship on Beech Lane (already closed). Tytherington has The Brocklehurst Arms, The Tytherington Club and the Beefeater. Again I fear the alienation of Bollinbrook if it were to be no longer part of the Tytherington Community.
5. Bollinbrook has a small parade of shops. The cafe has closed. Tytherington has a busy precinct. TBP has a thriving cafe that acts as an important social centre.
6. Bollinbrook has West Park (just) whereas Tytherington has five children's play areas.
7. Last year we planted an orchard in Bollinbrook on behalf of the Tytherington Community.

I urge you, Professor Mellors, to rethink this proposal, now that you have more facts available. Please don't tear the heart out of our Community.

Regards,

David Edwardes

Deputy Mayor of Cheshire East, Councillor for Tytherington (CEC and MTC)

## **Attached Documents:**

*None attached*