

Milton Keynes

Personal Details:

Name: Miss Victoria Bamisile
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Oakridge Park and Redhouse Park

I was elected as a councillor for a ward in May. Having spent nearly a year representing the ward, and having got to know it thoroughly throughout the campaign, I wanted to express concern at a small aspect of your otherwise great proposals.

Oakridge Park is noticeably different from the rest of the ward as a new-build estate on the other side of a major road. I have very much enjoyed getting to know its residents over the last year, but I have also learned that they face several challenges associated with being a new-build estate. The issues they face are unique, and though I know the current local ward team has made a great effort to represent them well, this has not always been the case.

This is unusual, given that nearby Redhouse Park is incredibly similar. Splitting these two estates between different wards seems an odd legacy of the previous review, and I was disappointed to see the revised borders do not address this. The new arrangements place one estate into a ward with very strong rural and urban areas, which may well overshadow the voices of a new-build estate without strong links to either. Considering the geographic size of the ward, it will be incredibly tough for even the most diligent of councillors to represent all areas well.

I hope you will consider uniting these two estates into one ward in your final draft. Moving Oakridge Park to Great Linford is preferable, but given the restrictions you face in electoral variance, it would also be an improvement to move Redhouse Park to Hanslope and New Bradwell to strengthen the voice of new-build communities in the area.

Attached Documents:

None attached