

# Somerset

## Personal Details:

**Name:** Mr Alan Bradford  
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**Organisation Name:** (District or county councillor)

## Comment text:

**Related subject:** North Petherton

I am ward Councillor for North Petherton, I was the last Chairman of Sedgemoor District Council and I am the longest serving member of North Petherton Town Council, where I was Mayor for 8 years.

I understand the tremendous task that is being undertaken and commend the work that has been done by so many people to date. However, I would say if it is not broken, leave it alone.

I have the following comments on suggestions that have been mooted so far regarding North Petherton:

Proposal 1 Division 32 King Alfred to include Moorland and North Newton

Comment: Moorland and North Newton and Lyng are situated on the opposite side of the River Parrett. We would have to fly over Burrowbridge to rejoin the King Alfred Division. Burrowbridge has more historical links with Middlezoy and Othery than Moorland, North Newton and Lyng.

Proposal 2 Division 33 North Petherton - North Petherton being linked with Dunwear and part of Bridgwater Without.

Comment: Once again the River Parrett flows in between. You either have to drive through Bridgwater Town or drive the A361/A372 by passing through the majority of the proposed King Alfred Division.

Proposal 3 Division 34 Stockmoor and Wilstock; Suggestion: Stockmoor and Wilstock being linked with Durleigh.

Comment: There is no vehicular transport links between the two areas, without entering Bridgwater or North Petherton.

I really cannot support these proposals. I do not think local knowledge of how the communities connect have been understood.

North Petherton has been an Local Community Network in its own right for 20 years. Lessons can be learnt from the existing good practice such as the Community Library Partnership whereby Somerset Council, North Petherton Town Council and the Friends of North Petherton Library work together to provide a library 5 days a week.

The area covered by North Petherton Town Council includes the following communities: Wilstock, Stockmoor, Somerset Bridge, Huntworth, Fordgate, Moorland, Rhode, Woolmersdown, North Newton, Hedging, West Newton, Moon Lane, Farringdon and Shearston, and not forgetting North Petherton. These areas are diverse being a mixture of rural and urban dwellings and businesses.

What a great shame if we would lose all the community connections built over the years for the sake of finance and penny pitching.

It is my understanding that Cllr Revans has also stated his disagreement with these proposals referred to above.

As the current ward Councillors for North Petherton Cllr Revans and myself agree on this. Surely Cllr Revans, as leader of Somerset Council must be listened to?

As a multimember ward, we work well together and put politics aside to make North Petherton a success.

## **Attached Documents:**

*None attached*