

North Yorkshire

Personal Details:

Name: Mr David Staveley
Email: [REDACTED]
Postcode: [REDACTED]
Organisation Name: (District or county councillor)

Comment text:

Related subject: Skipton - Settle & Pen-y-Ghent/Ingleton & Bentham

As a life long resident, with family, friends and professional associations from across mid and North Craven, I strongly disagree several key points in the current consultation proposal.

The suggestion that the parish of Clapham cum Newby should become part of the Settle & Pen-y-Ghent division as those communities identify with the Northern part of the Craven area economically, socially, educationally and medically. Their children commonly attend the primary schools in the northern part of the former District and will predominantly go on to attend the secondary school in Kirkby Lonsdale over the Cumbrian border. Residents tend to access commercial services in the villages of Ingleton and Bentham, utilising a wider ranges of facilities in Lancaster/Morecambe. Residents tend to be registered with the Bentham GP surgery and access hospital services in the Lancaster or Kendal facilities over the more commonly used Craven facility at Airedale in West Yorkshire. Socially I feel it's fair to suggest clubs and venues utilised aside from those immediately within the parishes, will be the towards the north of the district and beyond into West Lancashire and Cumbria.

The proposal to bisect the current Ribblesbanks Parish council by taking two of the component parishes out of their current division in favour of the neighbouring division of Mid Craven would appear to be based on a geographic proximity and numerical symmetry than an understanding of how those parishes identify with themselves and their sense of place within the wider area. For example there is no mention made of the element of that parish which falls into Tosside village, a neighbouring parish of Lancashire, but includes a not insubstantial number of residents. The Parishes of Ribblesbanks do look towards Settle and Giggleswick predominantly and serve as a vital connection between each other and the County Council, best served as a whole by one representative than the potentially blurred lines arising from two County Councillors serving the

same Parish but different areas. I would also say that the Ribblebanks name is important in terms of identifying this rural part of the district.

Regarding the inclusion of Austwick and Lawkland, this could be considered a margin call in terms of which way residents look, north or south, in terms of their broader identity, but their inclusion does pose a challenge to the rationale for renaming the division as just Settle.

I would suggest given the original NYC proposal that I broadly supported, the new division should be called the Pen-y-Ghent & Ribblebanks Division, giving recognition to the very specific geographic identity of the area included and not leave the wider community outside the largest village of Settle effectively anonymous, including Giggleswick. For while there is an argument to be made that as a community Settle and Giggleswick are one side of the river or the other, Giggleswick very much has it's own identity.

The suggestion I make gives an easily identifiable name for all settlements within the division without it reading like a shopping list or wilfully blind to those outside one component part of the division.

Attached Documents:

None attached