

North Yorkshire

Personal Details:

Name: Miss Bethan Jones

Email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name: St Martins Parish Council (Representative of parish/town council)

Comment text:

Related subject: Proposal of St Martins Parish Council moving to Richmondshire

I am writing on behalf of St Martins' Parish Council.

They would like to reiterate the following information which was supplied in the initial consultation.

The average number of registered electors per councillor in North Yorkshire is 5,374.

This is a higher average than comparable large rural unitary authorities such as Cornwall (4,994 electors per councillor) and Cumberland, another new unitary authority (4,595 electors per councillor).

The new Richmond and Gilling West ward within which it is proposed by North Yorkshire Council that St Martin's should be included would have 6,024 registered electors. This is almost 1,500 electors more than in Cumberland and indicates that there is accordingly a significant democratic deficit within North Yorkshire and that there should therefore be more elected councillors within the authority rather than less.

This lack of representation is further emphasised in comparison with the number of councillors (72) representing the electorate in the former North Yorkshire County Council, and even more so if the number of former District councillors is also included.

Following on from the draft proposal which has reaccommodated St Martin's Parish be drafted into Richmond division, the following observations have been discussed and agreed,

The Parish Councillors want to ensure St Martins retains its identity and the assets/community amenities that sit inside their boundary. Which include:

- The Station (three-screen cinema, restaurant, shops, galleries and a range of independent businesses)
- Richmond Leisure and Wellbeing Hub, which includes a swimming pool and gym
- The Richmondshire Rugby Union Football Club
- Richmond Town Football Club

Therefore, the Councillors feel strongly about remaining part of Hipswell & Colburn division and not Richmond Diversion.

Attached Documents:

None attached