North Somerset

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Comment text:

Related subject: Boundary change - The Elms in Wraxall Parish

Main arguments against the change:
• Community identity: A recent consultation by Wraxall & Failand Parish Council showed that 90% (303 votes) of The Elms residents identify as part of the Wraxall & Failand community. The proposed move does not reflect this.
• Consistency with prior decisions: The recent Community Governance Review recommended (and North Somerset's 2026 Reorganisation Order confirmed) that The Elms should remain in Wraxall & Failand parish. There have been no new developments to justify the LGBCE overturning this decision.
• Electoral equality: Moving The Elms would actually worsen the imbalance in Long Ashton ward, taking it from -6% to -8% below the average electors per councillor — the opposite of the stated goal.
• Effective local government: The change would reduce The Elms' representation from two Long Ashton councillors to one Nailsea councillor. It would also likely require parish governance to coordinate across three different district councillors, making local government less convenient and effective.
Overall conclusion: Nothing has changed since the Community Governance Review, so there are no valid grounds for this arbitrary boundary change.

Attached Documents:

None attached