North Somerset

Personal Details:

Name: [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
Postcode: [redacted]
Organisation Name: (Member of the public)

Comment text:

Related subject: Nailsea Golden Valley

The Elms should stay as-is within the Long Ashton ward. Specific points, under your headings are:

To improve electoral equality by equalising the number of electors that each Councillor has:
• This seems to be incorrect. Based on the figures provided, if residents of The Elms were to remain in Long Ashton Ward, they would receive more effective representation. The redistribution of Nailsea electors within the four Nailsea Wards would of itself result in improved electoral equality.

To ensure that the recommendations reflect community identity.
• The recent parish consultation clearly showed 90% of The Elms' residents already confirmed their identity is more aligned with Wraxall & Failand Parish than Nailsea. Ignoring this factor risks disrupting local ties. Also, the Community Governance Review original Draft Recommendation (also proposed by Nailsea Town Council) was completely overturned following public response. The Final version recommended The Elms was to remain in the Wraxall & Failand Parish, reinforcing its identity as Wraxall & Failand. Moving it to Nailsea would confuse boundary policies for no gain - nothing relevant would seem to support that approach. In addition, community members living on the Elms have significant ties to Wraxall church, Wraxall clubs, charities, and other groups in Long Ashton ward.

To provide recommendations that support effective and convenient local government.
• The proposed change would create confusion for residents and add complexity on Parish and District governance, elections and representation.

The current unified approach is much more straightforward and convenient. Also, reducing councillors representing The Elms from two in Long Ashton to one in Nailsea doesn't appear to provide effective local government.

Attached Documents:

None attached