North Somerset

Personal Details:

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

Comment text:

Related subject: Nailsea, Wraxall and Failand, Long Ashton ward

Feedback on Ward boundary consultation

Thank you for the opportunity to put forward my views as a resident of the Elms, Wraxall on recommendations in the Ward Boundary Consultation paper. I do not support the recommendation to include the Elms, Wraxall into a Nailsea ward for the following reasons.

First, I disagree with your assertion that the character of housing and pattern of access points to stronger links with the urban town of Nailsea than the rural village of Wraxall. It is true that the character of housing may be similar especially in Nailsea Golden Valley but this is not surprising given that the houses were built in a similar era (circa 2000). However, the residents of the Elms estate have chosen to buy property and live there because the character of the Elms is most definitely rural in comparison to urban Nailsea. The Elms residents are much more likely to hear sheep and cows than traffic. The residential streets in the Elms have very little traffic and cars parked on the road as the estate has been designed to ensure that most homes have garages and drives with plenty off road parking. Moreover, the estate was also designed to ensure that most homes have views towards Wraxall and/or the green belt. Community identity is more than geographic proximity and the community identity of the Elms is definitely rural and not urban.

Second, the residents of the Elms are already well served by our parish and ward councillors who share our concerns as an integral part of the Wraxall and Failand rural community, namely protection of the greenbelt and the environmental impact of huge housing developments planned by neighbouring urban Nailsea. The vast majority of residents in the Elms strongly value and support the exiting parish governance setup who work

hard to maintain the rural identity of our community. By contrast, Nailsea residents are primarily focus on Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour, and overdevelopment and unmanaged housing expansion. It is unlikely that a councillor in a Nailsea ward would understand or empathise with our concerns.

In conclusion, I can see no advantage for the residents of Elms to be part of a Nailsea ward. We are already well served by our councillors in the parish of Wraxall and Failand and the Long Ashton ward who share our concerns as a rural community. By contrast, Nailsea is currently planning large scale housing developments as well as infilling brown field sites. This will likely involve further ward boundary changes to Nailsea in the future once planning approval has been approved.

Attached Documents:

None attached