North Somerset

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Comment text:

Related subject: The elms, wraxall and failand parish

Re: proposed change in boundaries to include “the Elms” in Nailsea ward.

North Somerset Council concluded a Community Governance Review (CGR) in 2025 . Thos examined town and parish boundaries, warding, and councillor representation. The recommendations were approved in late 2025 and did not recommend including the Elms into Nailsea Golden Valley ward.

The local boundary government commission for England report fails on all 3 stated measures of the draft recommendation if the Wraxall and failand boundary is changed :

-Equality of representation.
-Reflecting community interests and identities.
-Providing for effective and convenient local government.

Point 50 page 11. In my view undue weight has been given both generally to Nailsea Town council and Councillor Bird’s views and , in particular the discounting of the uplift in the proposed new housing to the north of Nailsea which they will benefit from and has a very favourable backdrop for being granted in the current political climate.Even if the;proposed developments do bot proceed the change in boundaries will not ensure

equality of representation.

The change does not reflect community interests and identities. The outlook from the Elms is significantly more rural (and towards Wraxall) than other areas of more dense housing in Nailsea, The observations of the boundary commission regarding the roads and connectivity to Nailsea are misleading.The main road highlighted acts as a barrier between the two (Elms and Nailsea). They are little more linked to Nailsea than other parts of the Wraxall and Failand parish that also use the services of the most local town (Nailsea) and are more favourably placed to access community interests within Failand than Nailsea.There are strong so ial links between residents of the El s and clubs, societies, and the church in Wraxall and Failand parish.

Effective and convenient local government will be made worse, not better by changing the wards. It will result in an absurd situation where residents of the Elms will remain part of Wraxall & Failand Parish but also have electoral representation from Nailsea requiring them to vote in two different polling stations, probably on the same day . This makes no sense and I feel very strongly the electoral commission should review their finding and modify them for a more pragmatic solution that fully considers the people affected on the ground.

Attached Documents:

None attached