

**From:** Iain Millar [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 April 2018 13:07  
**To:** reviews  
**Subject:** Comments on Proposed ward boundary changes for Crawley  
**Attachments:** 2018 Ward boundary letter.doc

Dear Sirs,

Please find attached a letter from the Tinsley Lane Residents' Association regarding the requirement to change the electoral ward boundaries in Crawley.

The TLRA supports the proposal submitted by West Sussex County Council but has strong objections to the proposal submitted by Crawley Borough Council.

Yours faithfully

Iain Millar

Chairman

Tinsley Lane Residents' Association



# **Tinsley Lane Residents' Association**



9 April, 2018

Review officer (Crawley)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor Millbank Tower  
Millbank  
LONDON SW1P 4QP

Dear Sir,

## **ELECTORAL REVIEW OF CRAWLEY WARDING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Tinsley Lane Residents' Association was formed in 1978 by the residents of Tinsley Lane and its adjoining closes to preserve the character of this ancient part of Three Bridges as the new town of Crawley was built up around it and has over 100 members.

With reference to the above review we have been made aware that the proposal submitted by Crawley Borough Council involves cutting off the Tinsley Lane Residential Area from Three Bridges and transferring it to the Langley Green ward. The residents of Tinsley Lane are totally opposed to this proposal and wish Tinsley Lane to remain within the Three Bridges ward that we have always been part of.

1 A statutory criteria of the LG BCE states that "the pattern of wards should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities"

Tinsley Lane has been part of Three Bridges for over 100 years, since long before Crawley New Town was even planned and is still an integral part of the Three Bridges community and residents closely identify Three Bridges as their neighbourhood.

**Tinsley Lane has no relationship, similarity, interest or identity with Langley Green.**

2 The commission's decision will be based on strong evidence that "Community interests such as the location and use made of local facilities, services and local organisations....will carry greater weight..."

Although the 200 year old Tinsley Lane was cut by Crawley Avenue when it was built in 1972 it is still linked with Three Bridges by a footbridge and a roadway flyover across Crawley Avenue so that in reality the A2011 is not a barrier between us and the rest of Three Bridges which is only a few minutes walk away.

Our local primary school, secondary school, doctor's surgery, dental surgery, post office, hairdresser, shops, major supermarkets, railway station, youth centre (scouts and cubs), newsagent and community centres for all faiths in Three Bridges are WITHIN SAFE WALKING DISTANCE of Tinsley Lane and are used by our local residents.

**Langley Green is geographically remote. NOTHING there is within walking distance from Tinsley Lane. There are no compatible community interests and the only public transport connection is an hourly bus service. There are also two strong barriers in the arterial roads of Gatwick Road and the A23 London Road as well as a one mile wide industrial estate (that is devoid of housing) separating Tinsley Lane from all the amenities in Langley Green which none of the residents here use.**

3 The criteria used by Crawley Borough Council state that "The strong physical separation between neighbourhoods generally contrasts with the cohesion within neighbourhood areas"

This is clearly demonstrated by the geographical distance ( 2 miles) between Tinsley Lane and Langley Green shops and facilities which are separated by the 4 to 6 lane Gatwick Road, the expanse of Manor Royal Business district and the busy 4 lane A23 highway across which there is no footbridge.

They also state that "It is very difficult to devise wards crossing neighbourhood boundaries which have any logic, unity or cohesion"

**There is NO logic in a ward crossing these boundaries or unity or cohesion between the Tinsley Lane part of Three Bridges and Langley Green.**

The LGBCE also state that "Electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government".

It would not be practical for the same councillors to balance the needs of two such disparate and geographically separate communities as Tinsley Lane and Langley Green whose character and demographics are totally different.

The only LGBCE criterion satisfied by the Crawley Borough Council proposal is that it delivers equality of numbers across the Borough but this is at the expense of the other two main criteria. The existing Three Bridges ward, if allocated three councillors instead of two, satisfies the required number of electors per councillor within an acceptable variance so there is no need to split off Tinsley Lane.

All three criteria set out by the LGBCE are satisfied in a much more balanced way by the proposals submitted by West Sussex County Council. The County Council proposal retains Tinsley Lane within Three Bridges and places the housing immediately to the south of the Tushmore Roundabout into Langley Green ward.

Fronting onto and accessed via London Road, all of this housing just south of the Tushmore Roundabout clearly has a community of interest with Langley Green and the Tushmore Lane area, whereas Tinsley Lane has none whatsoever.

In conclusion, **separating Tinsley Lane from Three Bridges and transferring it to Langley Green ward is contrary to ALL the main criteria and guidelines of the Local government Commission for England** and the residents of Tinsley Lane formally request that their residential area remains within the Three Bridges electoral ward.

Yours faithfully

Iain Millar  
Chairman  
Tinsley Lane Residents' Association