

Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
For England  
Report No.418

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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THE RT. HON. MICHAEL HESELTINE MP  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

1. In a letter dated 13 July 1978 Aston-by-Budworth Parish Council requested us to review the boundary between the Borough of Macclesfield and Vale Royal District, both districts being within the County of Cheshire. Their purpose in seeking the review was to secure the transfer of a portion of the parish of Antrobus in Vale Royal District, to the parish of Aston-by-Budworth in Macclesfield borough, and thereby bring the whole of the village of Arley into Aston-by-Budworth parish.
2. Enclosed with the request was a petition signed by all 21 tenants of the affected houses, supporting the application, and a letter from the manager of the estate which owns all the houses in the village of Arley, also supporting the proposed change, on the grounds that as things stood the estate had to deal with two local authorities in their administration of the village.
3. In accordance with our usual practice the Parish Council were advised at that stage to refer their request to Macclesfield Borough Council for consideration in the context of their review of parish boundaries. The Borough Council however considered there was no compelling reason for proposing the boundary adjustment at that time and it could wait until we invited proposals for the adjustment of district and county boundaries. The Parish Council accordingly renewed their request to us for a review in a letter dated 22 November 1979, and at the same time suggested an amended boundary line to their original proposal.
4. We considered Aston-by-Budworth Parish Council's request as required by section 48(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having regard to the Department of the Environment Circular 33/78 and to our own Report No. 287.
5. We noted the views of Cheshire County Council and Vale Royal District Council who agreed with Macclesfield Borough Council. Our future programme of work however does not include any comprehensive review of non-metropolitan districts. On the other hand, the wishes of the local people involved suggested a desire for change as soon as possible.
6. As a result we decided that we should undertake a review, and that the circumstances were sufficiently exceptional to enable us to shorten our normal procedure by publishing draft proposals, based on Aston-by-Budworth Parish Council's letter, at the same time as we formally announced our intention to carry out a review.

7. On 20 March 1981 we issued a consultation letter announcing the start of the review and giving details of our draft proposals. The letter was addressed jointly to the Macclesfield Borough Council and the Vale Royal District Council. Copies were sent to Cheshire County Council, the Members of Parliament for the two constituencies concerned, the clerks of the Antrobus and Aston-by-Budworth parish councils, the headquarters of the main political parties, the North West Regional Health Authority the North West Water Authority, the Regional Office of the Department of the Environment, and to the editors of the two local newspapers circulating in the area and of the local government press. The two district authorities were asked to publish a notice about the review and draft proposals, and to place copies of it on display at places where public notices were customarily displayed; they were also asked to place copies of the draft proposals on deposit at their main offices for a period of six weeks. Comments on the review and on the draft proposals were invited by 8 May 1981.

8. Our draft proposals were supported by Macclesfield Borough Council, in view of the strength of local opinion, and by the local branch of the Association of Parish Councils. The Cheshire County Council and the Regional Water Authority informed us they had no comments. Vale Royal District Council, however, opposed them on the grounds of timing. In their opinion the administrative cost caused by isolated changes was out of proportion to any benefits gained, particularly at a time of financial stringency; any changes made now could pre-empt a general review of district boundaries and were therefore premature. However, in recognition of the fact that the Commission might decide to continue the present review the District Council also put forward a new suggestion that Aston-by-Budworth parish should be transferred to their district, by reason of that parish's affinity with Vale Royal, on grounds of communications, history, employment and commerce. The Antrobus Parish Council explained that they had originally raised no objections to the transfer embodied in our draft proposals but concern had subsequently been expressed at reductions in the district of Vale Royal without compensating adjustment, and they fully supported the policy of Vale Royal District Council in this matter.

9. We have carefully considered the views of the Vale Royal District Council together with their new suggestion. In making our draft proposals we were recognising the desire of the residents of Arley Village not to be divided between two parishes. The new suggestion raises wider issues which we do not consider it necessary to go into in order to deal with the issue before us. As a result of this conclusion we are satisfied that in the interests of effective and convenient local government the boundary between the borough of Macclesfield and the district of Vale Royal should be realigned as indicated in our draft proposals. We therefore confirm these as our final proposals.

10. Details of these final proposals are set out in Schedules 1 and 2 to this report. Schedule 1 specifies the proposed changes in local authority areas; the proposed boundary is illustrated on the attached map. Schedule 2 specifies the consequential adjustments to the existing electoral arrangements.

11. Copies of this report and of the map are being sent to the Macclesfield Borough Council and the Vale Royal District Council, and will be made available for public inspection at the councils' main offices. Copies of this report, which includes a small sketch plan, are being sent without the map to the remainder of those who received the consultation letter.

Signed:                               NICHOLAS MORRISON               (CHAIRMAN)

PHYLLIS BOWDEN

TYRRELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

D P HARRISON

R B THORNTON

LESLIE GRIMSHAW (Secretary)

2 July 1981

PROPOSALS FOR THE REALIGNMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARY  
BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF MACCLESFIELD AND THE DISTRICT OF VALE ROYAL  
IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE

It is proposed that the following area be transferred from the District of Vale Royal to the Borough of Macclesfield:-

that area bounded by a line commencing on the northeastern boundary of Vale Royal District at the stream known as Arley Brook, thence northwestwards along the centre of said stream and the stream known as Gale Brook to Lodge Lane, thence northeastwards along the centre of said lane to Caldwell's Gate Lane, thence northeastwards and northwards along the centre of said lane and its continuation northwards as an unnamed road to the point at which it turns southeastwards to The Firs, thence northeastwards in a straight line from said road to the southeastern boundary of Parcel No. 6900, as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) SJ 6682, date of publication 1967, thence northeastwards along said parcel boundary and continuing northeastwards along the southeastern boundaries of Parcels Nos. 5835, 7836, 9447, 8958, 9962 and Parcel No 0006 as shown on OS 1:2500 Microfilm (A) SJ 6782, date of publication 1967, to the northeastern boundary of Vale Royal District, thence generally southeastwards and generally southwestwards along said District boundary to the point of commencement.

SCHEDULE 2

PROPOSALS FOR THE REVISED ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS CONSEQUENT UPON THE PROPOSED REALIGNMENT OF THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE BOROUGH OF MACCLESFIELD AND THE DISTRICT OF VALE ROYAL IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE

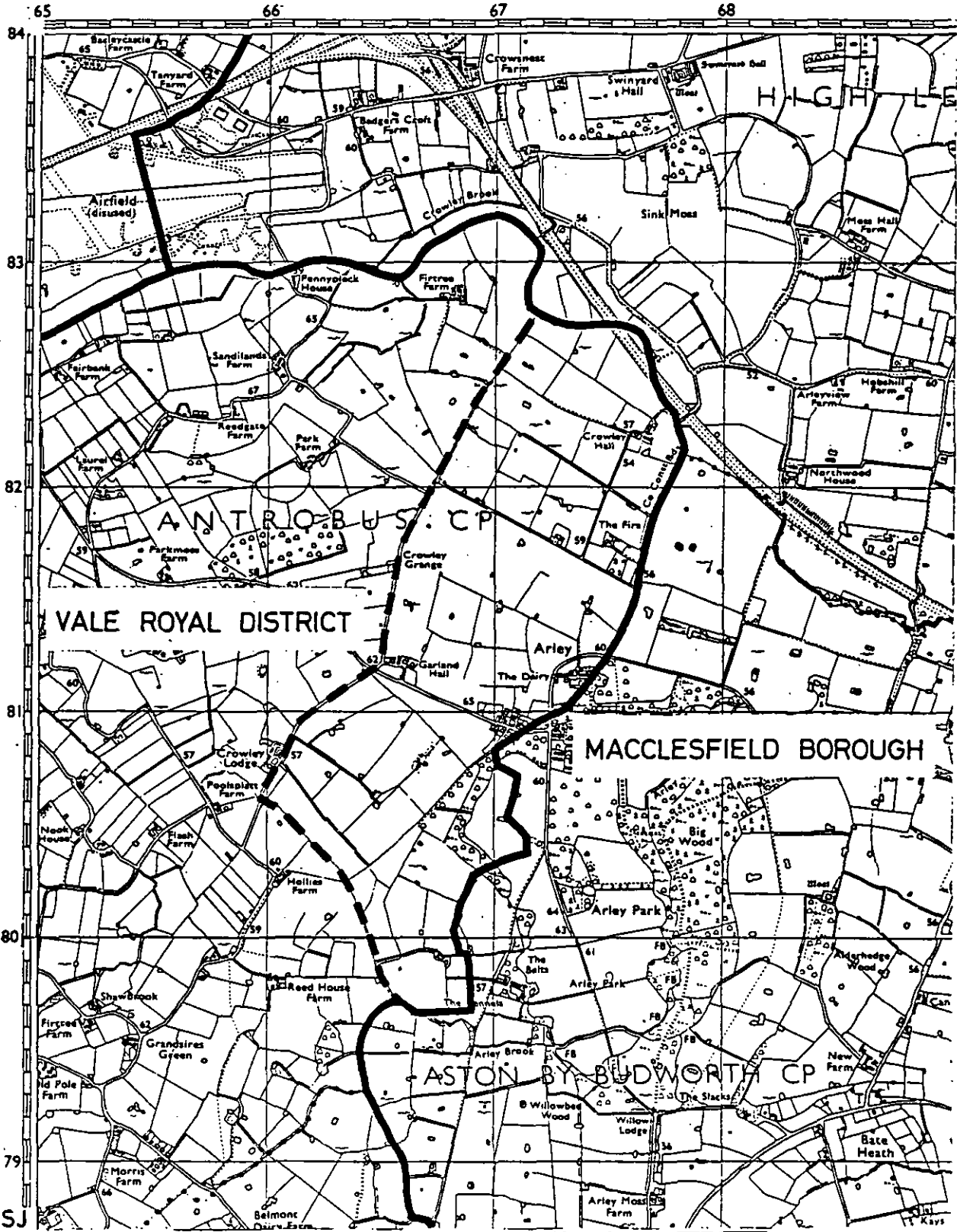
It is proposed:-

1. that the Bucklow electoral division, as defined in the County of Cheshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1980 and the High Legh ward of the Borough of Macclesfield, as defined in the Borough of Macclesfield (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1978, shall be altered by the addition of that part of the District of Vale Royal which is within the realigned boundary of the Borough of Macclesfield proposed in Schedule 1, and that the number of councillors for the said electoral division and the said ward shall be unchanged.
2. that the Gorst Wood electoral division as defined in the County of Cheshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1980, and the Seven Oaks ward of the District of Vale Royal, as defined in the District of Vale Royal (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1976, shall be altered by the separation of that part of the District of Vale Royal which is within the realigned boundary of the Borough of Macclesfield, as proposed in Schedule 1 and that the number of councillors representing the said electoral division and the said ward shall be unchanged.

# PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND  
FINAL PROPOSAL

Scale 1:25 000



— EXISTING DISTRICT BOUNDARY  
- - - PROPOSED DISTRICT BOUNDARY  
..... EXISTING CP BOUNDARY



