

**Local Government  
Boundary Commission  
For England  
Report No. 496**

**Principal Area Boundary Review  
Borough OF Shrewsbury and Atcham/  
District OF The Wrekin**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

BOUNDARY COMMISSION

FOR ENGLAND

REPORT NO. 496

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

1. On 19 July 1982, during the course of the parish review of the District of The Wrekin, Wrockwardine Parish Council (in the District of The Wrekin) asked us to make proposals for boundary changes involving the transfer of the hamlet of Blue Bell to the parish of Uppington (in the Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham), all in the county of Shropshire.
2. We considered this request in accordance with Section 48(5) of the Local Government Act 1972. We noted that neither of the District Councils concerned was in favour of the changes, but there was support from Uppington and Wroxeter Parish Council on the grounds that the residents of Blue Bell hamlet were much nearer the village of Uppington than the Wrockwardine area, took an active part in village life and were in favour of the changes requested.
3. Although the request seemed sensible, we considered that neither the Parish Council nor the District Councils had provided sufficient explanation of why the changes would, or would not, be in the interests of effective and convenient local government. We therefore decided to ask the District Councils for more detailed information in support of their views.
4. In reply to our letter, Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council stated that there would be no advantage in the change and pointed out the cost involved in the administrative changes that would be necessary. The Wrekin District Council's view was that the transfer would result in neither more nor less effective and convenient local government in the area.
5. We noted these views but having regard to the information about the wishes of the local inhabitants and the pattern of community life, we decided that we should formulate draft proposals based on the boundary suggested by Wrockwardine Parish Council.

6. Our draft proposals for changes to the boundary between The Wrekin District and the Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham were announced on 9 January 1985 in a letter to the District Councils. Copies of the letter were sent to Shropshire County Council, the Parish Councils concerned, the Members of Parliament for the constituencies concerned, the headquarters of the main political parties, the Shropshire Association of Parish and Town Councils, the Salop Area Health Authority, the Severn-Trent Water Authority, the West Midlands Regional Office of the DOE, local newspapers circulating in the area, local radio and television stations serving the area, the local government press and to all the residents of Blue Bell. Copies of the draft proposals were deposited for inspection at the main offices of the addressees of our letter. Comments were invited by 5 March 1985.

7. In response to our draft proposals, we received letters from Shropshire County Council, Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council, Uppington and Wroxeter Parish Council, Wrockwardine Parish Council, Derek Conway MP and Shrewsbury and Atcham Constituency Labour Party.

8. Both Parish Councils supported our draft proposals, while the Shropshire County Council, Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council and Derek Conway MP either had no objections or no further comments to make.

9. The Shrewsbury and Atcham Constituency Labour Party raised objections to the proposals. They felt that Blue Bell hamlet had no affinity whatsoever with the town of Shrewsbury and hence none with the Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham. They also considered that its position some 10 miles east of Shrewsbury would make provision of services unnecessarily expensive for Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council.

10. As required by Section 60(2) of the Act, we have reassessed our draft proposals in the light of the representations we have received. We do not believe that the relationship of Blue Bell hamlet with either Shrewsbury or Wellington has any real significance in the context of this very minor change, nor do we believe that any extra expense incurred by Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council in providing services to the hamlet could be more than negligible. We are satisfied that it would be in the interests of effective and convenient local government for the boundary between The Wrekin District and the Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham to be realigned as indicated in our draft proposals.

11. Details of our final proposals are set out in Schedules 1-3 to this report: Schedule 1 specifies the proposed changes in local authority areas and Schedules 2 and 3 the consequential adjustments to the existing electoral arrangements. The proposed new boundary is shown on the large-scale map enclosed with this copy of the report.

12. Separate letters are being sent to The Wrekin District Council and Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council asking them to place copies of our report and the map on deposit at their main offices, and to put notices to this effect on public notice boards in the vicinity of the parishes of Uppington and Wrockwardine. In view of the minor nature of the proposed boundary change and the small number of owners or occupiers of property involved, we have decided in this case to dispense with our normal practice of asking the Councils concerned to arrange for publication of an appropriate notice in the local press; instead, the households in the area concerned will be informed by letter of the Commission's proposals. The text of the notices will refer to your power to make an order implementing the proposals, if you think fit, after the expiry of six weeks from the date they are submitted to you; it will suggest that any comments on the proposals should

therefore be addressed to you, in writing, preferably within six weeks of the date of the letter. Copies of this report, which includes a small scale plan, are also being sent to those who received the consultation letter.

L.S.

Signed: G J ELLERTON (Chairman)

J G POWELL (Deputy Chairman)

JOAN ACKNER

TYRRELL BROCKBANK

G E CHERRY

K J L NEWELL

B SHOLES

L B GRIMSHAW  
Secretary

2 May 1985

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND

PRINCIPAL AREA REVIEW

SHREWSBURY AND ATCHAM BOROUGH/THE WREKIN DISTRICT

FINAL PROPOSALS

NOTE: Where a boundary is described as following a road, railway, river, canal or similar feature, it should be deemed to follow the centre of that feature, unless otherwise stated.

Schedule 1

Description of the area proposed to be transferred from Wrockwardine CP in Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough to Uppington CP in the Wrekin District.

That area bounded by a line commencing at a point where the existing boundary between Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough and The Wrekin District meets the northwestern corner of parcel No 6633 as shown on 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey microfilm SJ5910 Edition A, date of publication 1967, thence generally eastwards and northeastwards along the northern boundary of said parcel to the western boundary of Bluebell Road, thence southeastwards along said western boundary and in prolongation thereof to the A5(T) road, crossing said A5(T) road and continuing southeastwards along the western boundary of the unnamed road, leading from said junction to Uppington, to the existing district boundary, thence southeastwards, southwestwards and northwestwards along said District boundary to the point of commencement.

Schedule 2

Revised District electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedule 1.

It is proposed that the District Wards, as defined in the District of The Wrekin (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1978 and the Borough Wards, as defined

in the Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1975, shall be altered as described below.

The area described in Schedule 1 shall be transferred from the Wrockwardine Ward of the district of The Wrekin to the Attingham Ward of the Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham.

### Schedule 3

Revised County electoral arrangements, consequent upon the proposals described in Schedule 1.

It is proposed that the County Electoral Divisions, as defined in the County of Shropshire (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1980, shall be altered as described below.

The area described in Schedule 1 shall be transferred from the Wrekin Rural ED to the Tern ED.

