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From: Canwick Parish Council [REDACTED]

Sent: 06 June 2016 22:05

To: reviews <reviews@lgbce.org.uk>

Cc: CllrR Oxby <cclrr.oxby@lincolnshire.gov.uk>

Subject: CANWICK PARISH COUNCIL COMMENT ON THE ELECTORAL REVIEW OF LINCOLNSHIRE:
FURTHER LIMITED CONSULTATION - MAY 2016

Dear Sir

My Council comments on the subject review as follows:

Canwick Parish Council continues to object to the new division boundaries for Lincolnshire County Council proposed in the Further Limited Consultation documentation. In our view the revised proposals represent little more than tinkering, especially in our area. The proposed Washingborough division continues to encompass the relatively remote Bracebridge Heath whilst the adjacent Heighington village continues to be split between divisions - albeit in a revised fashion.

We believe that the points made last January in our response to the previous proposals (reproduced below) remain valid and we ask that the divisions be recast.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs P Shaw

Clerk to Canwick Parish Council

6 June 2016

Previous comment reproduced for reference

BOUNDARY COMMISSION COMMENT - Jan 16

Canwick Parish Council objects to the proposed new division boundaries for Lincolnshire County Council. The Boundary Commission proposals show that disparate communities appear to have been simply bundled together and/or split arbitrarily between proposed divisions (in some cases between three divisions) simply to equalise elector numbers.

1. There is no synergy with existing ward and constituency boundaries which predominantly follow natural topography and lines of communication. These largely run north-south whereas the proposals artificially impose a largely east west plan.

2. The proposals run counter to naturally functioning groups of settlements where geography and shared services mean communities work together. This is reflected politically and administratively in North Kesteven's cluster group system. Canwick functions naturally with Washingborough, Heighington and Branston sharing such things as schools, surgeries, retail and community facilities. These parishes have successfully worked together in the Four Parishes Cluster Group for over 20 years but would now be split into artificial divisions which do not reflect reality on the ground.

3. The proposal would split the large village of Heighington in two, dividing a civil parish, an ecclesiastical parish and a community in two. How can this possibly improve services to and representation of local residents?
4. The proposed Washingborough division would join Washingborough, Canwick and part of Heighington with Bracebridge Heath. This latter is separated by a mile of open countryside and one of the busiest roads in the Lincoln area. It has no cultural or administrative links with Washingborough, Canwick or Heighington and lies in a different parliamentary constituency.
5. The proposed divisions ignore the pattern of future development set out in the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan which has just completed public consultation. In our immediate locality this allows for 3500 new homes on Canwick Heath in the short to medium term and 6000 in the medium to long term. There are similar anomalies in other parts of the District where major strategic development plans are ignored by the Boundary Commission proposals.
6. For our own division we believe that joining Washingborough, Heighington and Canwick with Branston would be a more logical move to facilitate the necessary reduction in county divisions.
7. We believe re-cast divisions should bear at least some relationship to the existing pattern of settlements, communications and geography and the way in which communities function together. The Boundary Commission proposals largely ignore these factors, responding instead purely to the driver of balancing numbers to the apparent exclusion of the social, economic and geographical patterns which frame our residents' lives. In addition the proposals ignore publicly scheduled future development which will render these proposal rapidly out of date.
8. In summary the proposed division boundaries will not serve the population of our area well and will make it more difficult to provide them with the service they deserve. As such the proposals run directly against the four criteria describing 'a good pattern of divisions' printed on the Commission's own document summarising its proposals.