

Taylor, Laura

From:

[REDACTED]
29 March 2017 16:30

To:

[REDACTED]
Electoral Review of Ashford: Stanhope Parish

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To The Review Officer

I am contacting you on behalf of Stanhope Parish Council in Ashford Kent.

On viewing the draft recommendations for the area it is noted that the electoral boundary will exclude Speldhurst Close. This may look correct on a map but if you were to actually visit the Parish of Stanhope you will note that Speldhurst Close is an integral part of Stanhope Parish, the houses being identical to the rest of the parish and its residents having an affinity with the parish.

There have been incidents of confusion during elections, when residents who live in Speldhurst Close attend the main polling station in the Stanhope Parish Hall but are turned away as it is not their polling station. This confusion also extends to their Borough Councillor. The central ward's Borough Councillor lives in the parish and is often approached about various issues in Speldhurst Close. Their own Councillor however does not live in the parish or visits the parish. He does not attend Parish Council meetings, respond to emails or seen in the area. On the surface it seems as if he has little interest in Speldhurst Close.

Members recommend that a site visit is made to Stanhope so that the area can be properly viewed and the affects of this virtual boundary seen 'in the flesh'.

It seems ridiculous that Speldhurst Close is being put with Washford Farm when there is a clear visual boundary between the two, which can be seen when visiting the area.

Stanhope Parish Council would like to see Speldhurst Close put within the boundary of Central Stanhope.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Susan Stiffell
Stanhope Parish Council Clerk

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