Warwickshire County

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Comment text:

Given the new technology available by the internet, I do not feel that it is necessary to have even 57 councillors. There is not any real need for a county councillor to attend every parish council meeting as they used to as there are daily bulletins sent by the county of what the county council is up to and any relevant changes or news. Attendance at meetings is therefore virtually redundant our own CC has not been to a meeting for almost 18months. Parish Councils have by and large a good relationship with officers at the county and are more than capable of sorting out problems and the need to have a county councillor to do this for them as has sometimes been past practice, no longer exists. This frees up a lot of time for CC and so the wards could become larger without having any effect on the ability to represent constituents, this would save costs to the tax payer. Having been a parish councillor for almost thirty years I feel able to speak with authority there is a tendency with some councillors to be too controlling and this would allow for more localism to come to the fore and allow town and parish councils to operate more effectively. If the councillor no longer attended every meeting this would reduce costs and give them far more time to attend to other council matters. I am not sure how the number of people in an area has any bearing on how these divisions are arrived at, as some areas with fewer people may raise more issues than larger populated areas. There should be a log kept by councillors of how many people they have had to help and in what capacity so that you can see if this is relevant to the issue. most town and county councils can resolve their own issues so why not take it down much further, time has marched on and communications have made the role of the county councillor much less important than before, we have become more self sufficient, parish councillors are unpaid and represent their electorate far more effectively and have no political allegiance which time and time again tends to muddy waters at the county and district levels. If the county council is run properly by the CEO then life should be relatively smooth for local councils to work with the council for the best outcome of Warwickshire. I actually was in total despair after watching a recent cabinet meeting to open the debate on unitary authority in Warwickshire, judging by that performance we could do with reducing the members by considerably more than the few you suggest. I don't think it is possible for us to redraw the map as there are not any figures included but please reduce the number even further than you propose, the money freed up could go to something far more useful and beneficial to the man on the street. Also televising the meetings is another way of cost savings and we can actually see first hand how these councillors perform and whether they do what they said they would when seeking election.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded