



# Rutland County Council

Rutland County Council  
Catmose  
Oakham  
Rutland  
LE15 6HP



The Review Officer (Rutland)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
14th Floor Millbank Tower  
Millbank  
London  
SW1P 4QP



Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing as ward members of, geographically, the largest ward in Rutland. We wholeheartedly support your conclusions that our ward, Normanton, should remain unchanged at this time as we are well aware the ward will undergo considerable change in a few years when the current St George's Barracks is developed. We feel it is too disrupted to change the ward boundaries now when further change is likely to be required in five to ten years' time.

Normanton ward, as you are aware, is made up of four villages and one hamlet. Each of these settlements is distinct in character and during our, now seven, years of representing the ward we have worked hard to try and get these parishes to work together on issues of mutual interest. This has not been easy. It is from this experience, therefore, that we say we can see no advantage to your proposal of combining Martinsthorpe and Braunston to make a two member ward. Your proposal does nothing to improve the equity of electors to councillors but it does create a geographically very large ward whose villages and hamlets are disparate communities with no commonality save they are all in Rutland. We cannot understand the logic of your proposal therefore, but from representing such a ward, can see the difficulties and issues ward members elected to this ward would have in establishing working relationships with each other and with each parish. We urge you, therefore, not to pursue this proposal but to adopt the proposal for Martinsthorpe put forward by Rutland County Council.

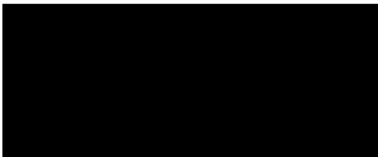
We also do not support your proposals for Oakham. We are in favour of the creation of a separate ward of Barleythorpe and the consequent increase in councillors from 26 to 28. We are both members of Rutland Council's Constitutional Review Working Group and in that capacity saw through the community governance review which created Barleythorpe Parish Council. During this process it became apparent to both of us that the people who live in Barleythorpe see themselves as being part of a community separate from Oakham. It is therefore doing these residents an enormous disservice to create a County Council Ward of three councillors where they are lumped together with part of Oakham. Again, we urge you to adopt the proposals put forward by Rutland County Council as these represent the wishes and identity of local residents.



Yours faithfully



K. Bool,  
Conservative Councillor, Normanton Ward



G.F. Waller,  
Liberal Democrat Councillor, Normanton Ward