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From: Bradnock, Allison
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:31:15 AM
To: review@lgbce.org.uk

Subject: Proposed Boundary Changes North Norfolk - Neatishead Parish

Dear Mr Carlsson-Hyslop

ELECTORAL REVIEW OF NORTH NORFOLK - Neatishead Parish

I refer to the review by the Boundary Commission of district council wards in North Norfolk and the proposal to change the boundary so that the Parish of Neatishead would join with Hoveton to become a ward. I would like to support the views of the Parish Councils of Neatishead, Barton Turf and Irstead and Hoveton and the District Councillor by objecting to this proposal. I am writing as the County Councillor for South Smallburgh, the division in which Neatishead, Barton Turf and Irstead are situated. I am also a resident of Neatishead.

The villages of Neatishead, Barton Turf and Irstead have an extremely cohesive connection in many different ways. The natural geographical connection is obvious, with Neatishead being between Irstead and Barton Turf and all three being situated round Barton Broad.

As a rural parish Neatishead has very little in common with the much larger, 'town like', community of Hoveton and as such does not share the same issues and concerns. There is an extremely strong social network within the three villages. This is evidenced by the support and membership of numerous social groups by residents from the villages, the recent drive to re-open the Neatishead shop as a community asset and the total community investment to build the New Victory Hall, then to use it as a focal point for everyone within the two parishes. The village school is another connector as well as the Church Benefice which covers all three of the village churches.

The issues and challenges faced by parishioners in Neatishead are common to those who live in Barton Turf and Irstead, issues of transport, provision of services and rural isolation which are very different to those experienced by residents in Hoveton. I do not feel there is a natural alliance between Hoveton and Neatishead because they have such disparate needs. To challenge the existing connectivity of the three parishes by removing Neatishead Parish, for it to be administratively joined to Hoveton would, I believe, be a detriment to all these communities.

There is an extremely strong sense of community and identity within the three villages which has been fostered by residents over many years and generations. The proposal to fracture the district administration of these villages in the process of reorganisation will, I believe, threaten the sustainability of these communities.

Yours sincerely

Allison Bradnock
County Councillor for South Smallburgh

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