

## Parish and town council submissions to the Derbyshire County Council electoral review.

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Alfreton-TC-Derbyshire-Submission-2012-06-01



Ault-Hucknall-PC-Derb...



Codnor-PC-Derbyshir...



Dale-Abbey-PC-Derby...



Eckington-and-Killama...



Eckington-PC-Derbysh...



Grassmoor-Hasland-&...



Heanor-&-Loscoe-TC-...



Heath-&-Holmewood-...



North-Wingfield-PC-D...



Ockbrook-&-Borrowas...



Ripley-TC-Derbyshire-...



Shirland-&-Higham-PC...



Somercotes-PC-Derby...



Temple-Normanton-wi...



Tibshelf-PC-Derbyshir...



Tupton-PC-Derbyshir...



South-Normanton-PC-..

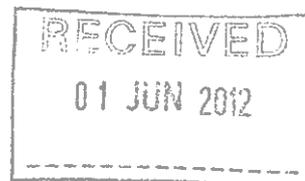


# Alfreton Town Council

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Our reference

Your reference



Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
LGBCE  
Layden House  
76 – 86 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

Dear Sirs

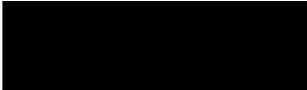
Draft Recommendations on the New Electoral Arrangements for Derbyshire County Council.

Alfreton Town Council has considered the recommendations on the new electoral arrangements for Derbyshire County Council at a recent meeting and Members prefer the status quo for Alfreton, Swanwick, Somercotes and Ironville with single Member Wards which fits those communities.

However they reluctantly accept the recommendation of the Boundary Commission of a two -Member division for Alfreton, Somercotes, Swanwick, Riddings and Ironville to be named Alfreton and Somercotes.

Members ask that the Boundary Commission carry out an analysis of the benefit of a two-Member ward three years from the date of the County Council Elections.

Yours sincerely

  
Sheila Gent  
Assistant Town Clerk

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Town Clerk: David T Holmes MBA Chartered FCIPD CiLCA  
Assistant Town Clerk and Treasurer: Mrs Sheila Gent CiLCA

  
QUALITY  
TOWN  
COUNCIL

**AHPC**

## **AULT HUCKNALL PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer – E R Price  
117 Station Road, Hephthorne Lane, North Wingfield, Chesterfield S42 5JQ  
telephone – 01246 851677  
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e mail – aulthpc@aol.com

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Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

RECEIVED

14 MAY 2012

11<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Electoral Review of Derbyshire**

I would inform you that the Ault Hucknall Parish Council would support the Commission's draft recommendations in relation to the Electoral Review for the County of Derbyshire

Many thanks

Yours sincerely



Ruth Price  
Parish Clerk & RFO

# CODNOR

## PARISH COUNCIL

### CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

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QUALITY  
PARISH  
COUNCIL

6<sup>th</sup> June 2012

Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Codnor Parish Council submission to the Local Government Boundary  
Commission for England

'Codnor Parish Council supports the residents and community of Waingroves in their submissions to remain part of the Ripley County Council Division as opposed to becoming part of the Heanor Central area.

Until fairly recently some of the streets in Codnor were part of the Ripley Town Council area due to the very old boundary line and indeed paid their Council Tax or equivalent at their precept rather than Codnor's rate. This anomaly was put right when the top parts of Mill Lane, Holborn View, Thomson Walk and Springhill Way became part of the Codnor Parish. The next change came at Borough Council level in 2000 when all of the Codnor Parish was included with Waingroves to make a two member ward which has been the case since. At least these changes could be seen to be linked to the two communities rather than the proposals in this review which appear to be totally part of a way to achieve the number required for each electoral division.

Whilst Codnor was linked to the Heanor Urban District Council and has had its own Parish Council since 1984, Waingroves has always been part of Ripley Town Council with a single councillor being elected to cover that area on that authority. The other identifiable thing is the Post Code, which for Ripley, Codnor and Waingroves is DE5 whereas it is DE75 for Heanor and district.'

Will you please ensure these views are taken into consideration by the commission.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk

The Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
LGBCE  
Layden House  
76-78 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

Dear Sir/Madam

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE NEW  
ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

I am writing to let you know the Parish Council's views in connection with the above, following consideration at their last meeting on 17 May.

The Parish Council has no comments in relation to the proposed arrangements for Derbyshire County Council, but does wish to comment on the proposed revised electoral arrangements for Dale Abbey Parish.

Firstly, please note that the number of Parish Councillors to be returned under the existing arrangements is ten – not nine as stated in the report.

The Parish Council is currently operating with eight Councillors because at the last local elections in 2011 (and not for the first time) insufficient nominations were received to fill all of the seats. Since the date of those elections two vacancies have remained, despite the Parish Council's best efforts to co-opt. Both vacancies are in the Kirk Hallam North Parish Ward, which would become the Kirk Hallam Parish Ward under the Commission's draft recommendations.

The Parish Council notes that the boundaries of the Parish Wards remain unchanged under the Commission's draft recommendations – only the Parish Ward names and the number of seats to returned in each Parish Ward are changed, meaning that the current and proposed allocation of Parish Council seats is therefore as follows:-

<u>Current Parish Ward</u>	<u>Seats</u>	<u>Proposed Parish Ward</u>	<u>Seats</u>	<u>Electorate</u> (1 June 2012)	<u>Electorate per seat</u> (proposed)
Village Ward	3	Dale Abbey Village	5	252	50.4
Kirk Hallam	5 (2 vacant)	Kirk Hallam	3	586	195.3

North

Kirk Hallam South	2	Ladywood	1	263	263
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In view of the difficulties in filling all the existing seats on the Parish Council some Parish Councillors have already informally voiced the possibility of seeking to reduce the number of seats in the Kirk Hallam North Parish Ward, and therefore in principle the proposed reduction of five seats to three in that ward would be welcome.

However, looking at the overall picture the Parish Council is concerned that the representation across the Parish Wards compared to the electorate appears to be not well balanced.

The Parish Council is mindful of the Commission's own advice (in relation to Community Governance Reviews) that

‘ . . . it is not in the interests of effective and convenient local government, either for voters or councillors, to have significant differences in levels of representation between different parish wards. Such variations could make it difficult, in workload terms, for councillors to adequately represent the interests of residents. There is also a risk that where one or more wards of a parish are over-represented by councillors, the residents of those wards (and their councillors) could be perceived as having more influence than others on the council.’

It is accepted that with relatively small electorates, the number of electors per seat and the percentage of seats given to a parish ward may be a little misleading, but nonetheless the Parish Council does have some misgivings regarding the current draft recommendations.

After discussion at the Parish Council meeting it was strongly inclined that two additional seats to the Village ward was unwarranted. Whilst the wards geographical area is relatively large the electorate number is very similar to the electorate number to the proposed Ladywood Parish ward, where only one seat is currently proposed.

With this in mind, we would invite your consideration to the following proposal, which would retain the overall number of filled seats on the Parish Council, but allocate them to the proposed wards as follows -

	Dale Abbey Village 3 Seats
Kirk	Hallam 3 Seats
Ladywood	2 Seats

In conclusion to confirm our understanding of the next steps, will final recommendations now go forward to the Secretary of State ? Finally to confirm that there will be no further opportunity for the Parish Council to comment?

Yours Faithfully

Julie Cooke  
Clerk to Dale Abbey Parish Council.

## Local Government Boundary Commission: Derbyshire County Council

### Submission from Eckington and Killamarsh Parish Councils on the proposals following the Boundary Review of Derbyshire County Council

The draft proposals for electoral districts within Derbyshire County Council were published on 2 April 2012. These proposals are based on 64 divisions.

The Boundary Commission is required to consider 3 criteria when determining boundaries:

- Equality of electorate
- Community identity and interests
- Effective and convenient local government.

The proposals have an impact on North East Derbyshire where the area loses 1 seat.

#### Proposals for North East Derbyshire County Seats

Currently 2 County Council divisions have coterminous boundaries with the Parishes of Eckington and Killamarsh. Electoral figures show that whilst Eckington Parish (9,335) could sustain a County Councillor, Killamarsh Parish (7,312) is significantly below the Boundary Commission's target of 9,414 (2011) and 9,751 (2017) electors per councillor.

The LGBC proposals for the Parishes of Eckington and Killamarsh are:

Proposed Division	Constituent Areas	Electoral Registrations 2011/2017
Killamarsh and Spinkhill	Killamarsh Parish: Killamarsh East Killamarsh Parish: Killamarsh West Eckington Parish: Eckington South Eckington Parish: Renishaw and Spinkhill	} 9,979/10,110
Apperknowle	Coal Aston Unstone Ridgeway and Marsh Lane Eckington North Part of Eckington South	} 10,728/10,782

#### **Parish Councils' Response**

- **Do the proposed divisions reflect local communities?**

The proposed divisions of Killamarsh and Spinkhill and Apperknowle split the parish of Eckington into two. The proposed divisions would contain approximately 29% of the current Eckington parish electorate in Killamarsh and Spinkhill and 71% in the Apperknowle division respectively. The proposed boundary runs along the edge of Eckington town centre and suggests that Eckington parishioners identify more with Unstone, a village which cannot be accessed via a direct bus route, than with its own shopping centre, civic centre, leisure centre and doctors' surgeries. The centre of Eckington is a community hub for the parish with shops, newsagents, post office, library, swimming pool and community centre. It is where Eckington people come together yet the proposal separates it from the residential area of the village.

The Parish Councils believe that by dividing the Parish of Eckington between two County divisions fails to recognise its community and seeks to link it with a parish with which it has no connection in terms of access or identity. The parishes of Eckington and Killamarsh each have their own distinct identity and there is little interaction between the two villages and ideally the parish councils would prefer to have 1 County Councillor for each. The Parish of Killamarsh, however, has a much closer connection to the Parish of Eckington and this is explored in more detail in the following paragraph.

## **Local Government Boundary Commission: Derbyshire County Council**

### **Submission from Eckington and Killamarsh Parish Councils on the proposals following the Boundary Review of Derbyshire County Council**

- **How do you think the proposals can be improved whilst maintaining electoral equality?**

The Parishes of Eckington and Killamarsh recognise that the Boundary Commission has to apply the statutory criteria and the requirement to achieve electoral equality means that the status quo is not an option. In our view the proposals seek to maintain electoral equality at the expense of community identity. Eckington is a market town linked in terms of its ability to regenerate with the similarly placed market town of Killamarsh. Both communities have populations who travel to work within South Yorkshire rather than into Derbyshire and whose young people go to the same secondary school in Eckington. The Parish Councils feel that connecting a large part of Eckington with Unstone, a village with which it has no links or compatibility is democratically unacceptable.

The Parish Councils would therefore advocate that in order to maintain electoral equality, whilst preserving community identity and interests, the Boundary Commission considers a 2 seat division containing Killamarsh and the whole of the Parish of Eckington. We would also propose the inclusion of the district council ward of Coal Aston in this division although we recognise that there will be a need for consequential minor boundary changes involving few, if any electors, so as to ensure that the boundary runs along the southern edge of the B6056. The Commission has previously visited the Coal Aston area and satisfied itself that there are communications between Coal Aston and Eckington. We would not support the inclusion of the Unstone ward in the same division as Eckington. The main community of Unstone lies either side of the B6057 and has natural links with Dronfield. There are poor public transport links between Eckington and Unstone and the communities share no common interests of identity.

This proposal would deliver figures of 9,627/9,717 electors per councillor achieving the Commission's target.

- **Are the names of the proposed electoral divisions right?**

The Parish Council recognises that the Boundary Commission has limited local knowledge of the areas under consideration. The proposed names remove from the democratic map of the County of Derbyshire the town and community identity of both Eckington and Renishaw.

If the current proposals were to be adopted the Parish Councils would recommend using the names of 'Killamarsh and Renishaw' instead of 'Killamarsh and Spinkhill' and 'Eckington with Unstone' instead of 'Apperknowle'.

If the suggestion for a 2 seat division was adopted then the Parish Councils would suggest the name of 'Eckington and Killamarsh'.

### **Conclusion**

Eckington and Killamarsh Parish Councils submit that the proposal to split the Parish of Eckington between 2 County Divisions is detrimental to the community interests of the parishioners of Eckington.

In order to achieve electoral equality the Parish Councils would favour the formation of a 2 seat County Division aligning Eckington with Killamarsh, a close neighbour and a town with a similar identity. The Parish Councils recognise that an area of Coal Aston will need to be included in this division.

## Local Government Boundary Commission: Derbyshire County Council

### Submission from Eckington Parish Council on the proposals following the Boundary Review of Derbyshire County Council

The draft proposals for electoral districts within Derbyshire County Council were published on 2 April 2012. These proposals are based on 64 divisions.

The Boundary Commission is required to consider 3 criteria when determining boundaries:

- Equality of electorate
- Community identity and interests
- Effective and convenient local government.

The proposals have an impact on North East Derbyshire where the area loses 1 seat. The knock on effect of a whole scale redrawing of County seat boundaries in North East Derbyshire is the re-warding of some Parish Councils where existing parishes are split between different County divisions.

The Parish of Eckington covers a wide geographic area and serves the communities of, Eckington at its core, outlying centres of Renishaw and Ridgeway and associated communities of Spinkhill and Marsh Lane. Eckington Parish Council has worked hard over the past few years to ensure that the whole community is democratically best served. In working towards Quality Status the Parish Council is encouraging greater community cohesion. Our new newsletter can be found on our website <http://www.eckington-pc.gov.uk/newsletter.html> and shows what we are trying to achieve. The Parish Councils of Eckington and Killamarsh have jointly submitted an alternative proposal for a 2 seat division based on preserving Eckington's community identity and achieving electoral equality by including Coal Aston.

### Proposals for Parish Re-warding

The Boundary Commission is required to make recommendations on parish warding where their proposals split a parish between more than one County seat.

Current Parish Wards		Proposed Parish Wards	
Ward	Number of Councillors	Ward	Number of Councillors
Eckington North	6	Bramley (Apperknowle)	4
Eckington South	5	Eckington Central (Apperknowle)	4
Marsh Lane and Ridgeway	3	Ridgeway and Marsh Lane (Apperknowle)	3
Renishaw and Spinkhill	3	Renishaw (Killamarsh and Spinkhill)	3
		Southgate (Killamarsh and Spinkhill)	3

### Parish Council's Response

Should the Boundary Commission accede to the recommendation for a 2 seat county division then there would be no necessity for warding changes. However, the Parish Council recognises that the Boundary Commission may reject this proposal and therefore would wish to make comment on the original proposals.

- Do the proposed divisions reflect local communities?

The Parish Council strives to be inclusive of all its communities but recognises that ward boundaries are convenient electoral tools and tend to centre on distinct townships. This is the case in Renishaw and Ridgeway and Marsh Lane. The new proposed ward of Southgate is arbitrary and its formation is a consequence of the county seat proposals. The Parish Council does not recognise that it reflects community identity in its own right but recognises why it has become a ward and would see no benefit in subsuming it within Renishaw ward.

- How do you think the proposals can be improved whilst maintaining electoral equality?

Although electoral equality does not have the same weight in determining parish warding arrangements, the Parish Council does believe that the proposed allocation of councillors to wards is not in the best interests of the residents of the parish. The Parish Council would therefore propose that should these warding arrangements be adopted, then the following councillor allocation is also adopted.

<b>Proposed Parish Ward</b>	<b>Electoral Registrations 01.12.11</b>	<b>Number of Councillors</b>
Bramley (Apperknowle)	2953	4
Eckington Central (Apperknowle)	2331	4
Ridgeway and Marsh Lane (Apperknowle)	1406	3
Renishaw (Killamarsh and Spinkhill)	2036	4
Southgate (Killamarsh and Spinkhill)	635	2

- Are the names of the proposed electoral divisions right?

The Parish Council recognises the limited local knowledge of the Boundary Commission and believes that the names suggested would do little to enhance community identity. The Parish Council would therefore propose that, should these warding arrangements be adopted, the following names be also adopted

<b>Proposed Parish Ward (Boundary Commission)</b>	<b>Proposed Parish Ward (Eckington Parish Council)</b>
Bramley (Apperknowle)	Eckington North
Eckington Central (Apperknowle)	Eckington Central
Ridgeway and Marsh Lane (Apperknowle)	Ridgeway and Marsh Lane
Renishaw (Killamarsh and Spinkhill)	Renishaw and Spinkhill
Southgate (Killamarsh and Spinkhill)	Eckington Southgate

## Conclusion

Eckington and Killamarsh Parish Councils have jointly submitted that the proposal to split the Parish of Eckington between 2 County Divisions is detrimental to the community interests of the parishioners of Eckington. In order to achieve electoral equality the Parish Councils would favour the formation of a 2 seat County Division aligning Eckington with Killamarsh, a close neighbour and a town with a similar identity. The Parish Councils recognise that an area of Coal Aston will need to be included in this division.

Eckington Parish Council further submits its own recommendations on warding arrangements in terms of councillor allocation and names should these be required.

**Lawrence, Arion**

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**From:** Gregory, Eleanor  
**Sent:** 07 June 2012 14:04  
**To:** Lawrence, Arion  
**Subject:** FW: Further Electoral Review of Derbyshire  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** GrassmoorPC [mailto:████████████████████]  
**Sent:** 06 June 2012 21:39  
**To:** Reviews@  
**Subject:** Further Electoral Review of Derbyshire  
**Importance:** High

Dear Sir/Madam

The Parish Council wish to object to the Local Government Boundary Commission's proposals to change the County electoral division boundaries which cover Grassmoor, Hasland and Winsick Parish Council and also the proposal to make Grassmoor a warded parish.

It is noted with interest that in attempting to achieve your aim of electoral fairness, you should have regard to the provisions of the Local, Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009. The provisions of the Act include to:

- Secure effective and convenient local government
- Provide for equality of representation
- Reflect the identities and interests of local communities, in particular
  - The desirability of arriving at boundaries that are easily identifiable
  - The desirability of fixing boundaries so as not to break any local ties.

The Parish Council would argue that your proposals fail to take account of these factors.

Secure effective and convenient local government

The proposals will do nothing to achieve secure and effective local government. In terms of the County electoral division, your proposals will mean that the Parish Council will be dealing with two County Councillors as opposed to one currently. As the village of Grassmoor is an identifiable local community, having to work with two councillors will be more time consuming and difficult for the Parish Council. Decisions and support for local issues may well be inconsistent as the political persuasions, interests, priorities and views of the two councillors may vary. Grassmoor could easily lose out as a result as their voice at County Hall would be provided by two members possibly with differing views or allegiances.

Equally, the proposed arrangements will be difficult for the local community to understand. Changes to the boundaries which have remained unchanged for many years will inevitably cause confusion and may well disaffect the local electorate. Grassmoor is a close knit community and local residents will live in Clay Cross North and work in the Sutton Division or vice-versa. To have to deal with two different councillors is not effective or convenient and it also confusing.

The proposals to split the Parish into wards also does not lead to effective and convenient local government. The proposed boundary to create the Grassmoor Ward does not follow a natural boundary and will not be understood by the local electorate.

#### Provide for equality of representation

The Parish Council does not accept that the provision of electoral equality of representation should be at the expense of community identity. The proposals put forward by the Labour Group at the County Council achieve political equality whilst at the same time maintaining the community identity of Grassmoor. And these views are fully supported by the Parish Council.

#### Reflect the identities and interests of local communities

The Parish Council would contend that rather than reflecting the identities and interests of the local community, the Commission's proposals will have the opposite effect. Grassmoor will effectively be split in to two by the new boundaries and the risk to community identity would be significant.

The proposed boundary cannot in any way be considered to be easily identifiable. As proposed, the boundary cuts across the village including the main road and leaves some sides of roads in the Sutton Division and the other side in the Clay Cross North Division. The changes would not support your aim of recommending "strong, clearly identifiable boundaries" as quoted on page 5 of your report.

The new boundaries as proposed would clearly break local ties. The School for instance would be in one Clay Cross North Division and the Community Centre and Doctor's Surgery would be in the Sutton . The boundary would also split the shops in Grassmoor, including the Post Office. The same principles would apply to the Parish Council should the proposals for the Parish to be warded be adopted.

Whilst the Sutton Division keeps the communities of Winsick and Churchside which it has traditionally been associated with for many years, the Clay Cross North Division would link a significant proportion of the village of Grassmoor with Tupton and parts of Clay Cross, villages which Grassmoor has no natural affinity with.

Regards

Roy Ackrill  
Clerk, Grassmoor, Hasland & Winsick Parish Council



**Lawrence, Arion**

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**From:** Gregory, Eleanor  
**Sent:** 06 June 2012 12:26  
**To:** Lawrence, Arion  
**Subject:** FW: Electoral review of Derbyshire

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**From:** Heanor & Loscoe Town Council [mailto:heanor-loscoetc@tiscali.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 06 June 2012 11:58  
**To:** Reviews@  
**Cc:** robertjjanes@btinternet.com; Councillor Celia Cox  
**Subject:** Electoral review of Derbyshire

**Boundary Commission Proposals – Derbyshire County Council Electoral Divisions**Heanor Central

Heanor and Loscoe Town Council are surprised and dismayed to find that the Boundary Commission suggests incorporating a significant part of the Waingroves Community into Heanor Central Division.

1. Geographically this takes the Heanor Central Division almost into the centre of Ripley.
2. There is no community interest between Heanor Central and Waingroves, which has traditionally looked to Ripley and Codnor in its community links (see 3 below)
3. In terms of shopping, medical practices, local hospital, leisure facilities, secondary education and bus routes Waingroves has massively clearer links with Ripley.
4. It is difficult to believe that any potential equalisation of numbers for divisions can justify this move.
5. The Boundary Commission always states that it is mindful of community interests and the need for efficient local government – the incorporation of Waingroves into Heanor Central achieves neither of these aims

**For and on behalf of  
Heanor and Loscoe Town Council**

**Mrs Laura West  
Town Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer**

**Heanor and Loscoe Town Council**  
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6<sup>th</sup> June 2012

Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
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**Heath & Holmewood Parish Council's representation**

The Parish Council wishes to express support for the link between Holmewood, Heath and North Wingfield. In particular the A6175 being a common community link, and allowing excellent transport links to enable parishioners from North Wingfield to use the shops in Heath and Holmewood and vice versa.

Expression of concern was raised at the Commissions proposals to split so many villages in two. Whilst it doesn't affect Heath and Holmewood directly, the Parish Council would like to emphasis that each village has its own sense of identity and community spirit.

Therefore, the Parish Council would kindly ask the Boundary Commission to review its proposals so as to try and keep villages complete.

Heath and Holmewood Parish Council would also like to support any submission from North Wingfield and Grassmoor Parish Councils regarding the proposed boundary reviews for these two Parishes.

Kind Regards

Karen Howe  
Clerk to Heath & Holmewood Parish Council

## **NORTH WINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

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CHESTERFIELD  
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01246 856451  
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Parish Administrator : Yvonne Colverson

16.05.12

Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76-78 Turnmill Street  
LONDON  
EC1M 5LG



Dear Sir / Madam

### **Electoral Review of Derbyshire: Draft Recommendations**

On behalf of the Parish Council of North Wingfield I have been instructed to object most strongly to the proposed new electoral arrangements for Derbyshire County Council on the basis that the Parish of North Wingfield will be split in half which will impinge on the community identity of the village. It is the view of my Council that these proposed boundaries place far too much emphasis on equality of numbers and no emphasis on the community identity of our village or upon the effect it will have upon our ability to function as a Parish Council.

North Wingfield has a strong community identity having a primary school, community centre, parish church, post office and village centre with local shops, pubs and social clubs that serve the whole village. Residents from all corners of the village come together to use these facilities and share a common identity of being part of this community. Our village has a parent and toddler group, a Darby & Joan Club, Scouts and Guides, youth and adult football teams all of which pre-fix their name with the word North Wingfield. Just as importantly, on the 11 November each year, the whole community comes together to remember the residents of our village who gave their lives for our country.

The Parish Council is now concerned that this strong sense of shared community identity and spirit will be diminished if we lose the representation that comes from having one county councillor.

The two parts of North Wingfield proposed by the current draft will be on the peripheries of each of the county councillor's divisions and our village, one of the largest in North East Derbyshire, will no longer have a division named after it.

Having 2 different councillors representing the village could lead to difficulties for the Parish Council when dealing with County Council issues since we would not know who to approach for help and representation and we would lose a strong, single voice to represent our village in the council chamber.

**VAT registration No: 852 8246 11**

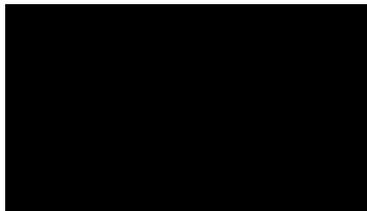
The proposed boundaries between the two halves of the village lack clarity, running as they do across the village green and over roads and would lead to confusion over representation with residents unsure of who represents them. We, as a Parish Council, have already experienced such problems at a district council level where residents of the North Wingfield East Parish Council ward regularly tell us that they are unsure which district council ward they are in. At a time of increased voter disaffection and alienation from the political process a further complication of the electoral arrangements in North Wingfield will only add to that disengagement from the democratic process.

The Parish Council has worked tirelessly over many years to make North Wingfield an inclusive, safe and pleasant place to live and, although the village is socially diverse, it retains a strong sense of community.

The Parish Council strongly believe that these proposals will undermine community identity and have a detrimental effect on electors, Parish Council and the community as a whole.

North Wingfield Parish Council supports any proposal that keeps our parish whole. We do see the logic of the Commission's proposal to link North Wingfield with Holmewood, part of North Wingfield is already included in Holmewood ward and we share similar highway problems arising from having the A6175 which links our two communities. If that then meant that North Wingfield had to be linked with Calow ward in order to achieve greater electoral equality the Parish Council would not have any objections.

Yours sincerely



Yvonne Colverson  
Parish Administrator

## Lawrence, Arion

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**From:** Hinds, Alex  
**Sent:** 03 May 2012 09:28  
**To:** Lawrence, Arion  
**Subject:** FW: Elecxtoral Review of Derbyshire  
Re Derbyshire

**Alex Hinds**  
**Review Assistant**  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
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Email: [alex.hinds@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:alex.hinds@lgbce.org.uk) Web: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)



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**From:** Ockbrook & Borrowwash Parish Council [<mailto:obpc@ntlbusiness.com>]  
**Sent:** 03 May 2012 08:34  
**To:** Reviews@  
**Cc:** Bethan Solloway; John Tizzard; Jeff Owens; mike wallis; vera tumanow; terry holbrook; phil archer; Michael White; Joyce Wild; Amanda Solloway; BRUCE BROUGHTON; Ockbrook & Borrowwash Parish Council  
**Subject:** Elecxtoral Review of Derbyshire

### ***Ockbrook and Borrowwash Parish Council***

The Parish Council has no representations to make concerning the above review.

Yours sincerely

Graham Taylor  
Clerk to Ockbrook and Borrowwash Parish Council

Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG



June 7<sup>th</sup> 2012

Dear Sirs,

### **Introduction**

- a) Ripley Town Council (RTC) is making this submission in response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's (LGBCE) draft new electoral arrangements for the "Ripley East and Codnor" Division of Derbyshire County Council, as published in April 2012.
- b) RTC submits that there is a compelling case for the electoral division (Ripley East and Codnor) to include all of Waingroves and Codnor, and that no part of either should be transferred into any other electoral division.
- c) RTC notes the LGBCE observation in respect of "the absence of evidence of community identity" and, in making this submission, is seeking to provide that evidence.
- d) RTC considers that its alternative proposal balances the overall assessment criteria better than the current draft proposal, and this submission has been organised under the broad headings of those LGBCE criteria. These are to;
  - deliver electoral equality for voters;
  - reflect local community interests and identities; and
  - promote effective and convenient local government.

### **Electoral equality for voters**

- 1) It is important to note that RTC understands the desire of LGBCE to minimise the variance between numbers of electors per electoral division to within +/- 10% of the 'mean average' number of electors per division in the County. It is also important to note that RTC acknowledges that its proposal will not meet the +/- 10% test per se.
- 2) A fundamental aspect of the RTC proposal is to ensure that the people of Waingroves and Codnor retain equality with their peers, through having similar electoral arrangements to the majority of electors in the Amber Valley. Specifically, most of the Amber Valley electors shall continue to have representation at County level based upon their Borough Council electoral 'wards'; but this would not apply to any Waingroves and Codnor elector whose property was assigned to the Heanor electoral division.

- 3) To place any Waingroves or Codnor electors into a Heanor electoral division would create further un-necessary complication and confusion for the electorate. Commonly, the situation is that a significant proportion of people already do not understand how local government is structured, and what the responsibilities of each type of council are. Consequently, RTC believes the LGBCE proposal will not help in tackling the difficulties there already are engaging electors in the local government electoral process; it will only deliver further confusion and misunderstanding.
- 4) RTC suggests that the LGBCE proposals might also be seen as discriminatory since the majority of Amber Valley electors are not to be subject to such complications in their local electoral arrangements. Thus, it is reasonable to suggest that such an outcome must be part of what might be defined as "electoral equality".
- 5) To put people from the communities of Waingroves and Codnor into Heanor can also be seen as 'denying' the people and local communities their history. Thus it is arguable that the LGBCE proposal does not properly reflect the identities and interests of the local people and local communities. (See paras 7 – 15 below.)
- 6) Furthermore, it is RTC's contention that if the LGBCE's proposals are adopted, the delivery of effective and convenient local government to Waingroves and Codnor would be actively undermined and impeded. (See below.)

#### **Local community interests and identities**

- 7) Coal and ironstone has been mined in the Codnor district for hundreds of years. The early mines were known as Bell pits, and were only capable of retrieving the coal and ironstone that was relatively close to the surface. It wasn't until the Butterley Company was established in 1790 in Ripley that mining in the area began to get more advanced and was greatly developed.
- 8) Thus, the village of Codnor community grew from only having a small agricultural based workforce to a rapidly growing industrial one. Many of the properties and streets in Codnor did not exist until the mid-1800s, when they were built to help accommodate hundreds of workers needed for the many mines in the area. Similarly, Waingroves was founded as a 'pit village' in the mid-1800s.
- 9) The majority of pits in Waingroves and Codnor were owned by the Butterley Company (which was based in Ripley until the liquidation of the company in 2009). As the social, political and economic infrastructure was developed in Waingroves and Codnor - especially during and since the Victorian era - all municipal, cultural and business organisations, and the local people gravitated to Ripley as it was geographically close, and also the economic and social centre of 'power'.
- 10) The strength of the historical relationships between Ripley and Waingroves and Codnor are not to be underestimated because the 'ties' remain as significant today as they were 150 years ago. These ties are reinforced by the simple facts that Ripley is geographically closer to Waingroves and Codnor than Heanor, and that the built environments of both Waingroves and Codnor physically adjoin Ripley, but not Heanor.
- 11) This physical relationship is acknowledged by the Post Office given the fact that Waingroves and Codnor share the same postcode of DE5, not the DE75 of Heanor.

12) In addition to the shared history and the shared localities, the shared interests and identities between Ripley and Waingroves and Codnor are manifested in many ways. For example, many people from Waingroves and Codnor:

- Work in Ripley,
- Shop in Ripley;
- Bank in Ripley;
- Are entertained in Ripley;
- Receive services from Ripley; and
- Participate in organised sports leagues based upon Ripley.

13) The Waingroves and Codnor communities' identities and interests are also shaped by the National Health Service. Whilst Codnor has a GP surgery, Waingroves does not and is in the catchment area of the Ripley GP practices. But all referrals for specialist treatment for people from Waingroves and Codnor are generally to the Ripley (and Derby) hospitals, and certainly not to Heanor hospital.

14) Spiritually too, the needs of the Waingroves and Codnor communities are 'led' from Ripley. For example, the local Methodist 'circuit' places the chapels in Ripley, Waingroves and Codnor together. Further, whilst Codnor has St James church and is its own Church of England (CoE) parish for historical reasons, Waingroves is part of the All Saints Church, Ripley CoE parish.

15) In summary of paragraphs 8 – 15 above, RTC strongly believes that its proposal – not to move any electors from Waingroves and Codnor into Heanor - reflects local community interests and identities better than the LGBCE proposals.

#### **Effective and convenient local government**

16) As stated above, it is RTC's belief that the delivery of effective and convenient local government to Waingroves and Codnor would be actively undermined and impeded if the LGBCE's proposals were adopted.

17) Whilst Codnor has its own Parish Council, Waingroves is a single seat 'ward' on Ripley Town Council. Waingroves and Codnor share a single Borough Councillor and are currently part of the same County Council division. It makes little sense to add another layer of complexity to electoral arrangements by splitting the Borough seat such that it falls into two County Council divisions.

18) If the LGBCE proposal is to be implemented, RTC consider it is likely to lead to the administration of local government becoming more complicated. This is because the practical day to day administrative practices of council officers would no longer match the boundaries of electoral divisions. Two examples are given below

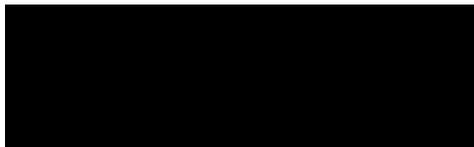
19) School organisation in the county has been based around 'clusters' of schools. The Waingroves and Codnor primary schools are both a part of the Ripley cluster not that associated with Heanor. Further, each of the Waingroves and Codnor primary schools is a 'feeder' primary to Ripley Mill Hill secondary school and not to Heanor Gate secondary school.

- 20) The Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority provides its fire cover from Ripley, not Heanor, as Ripley is Fire Station is closer to Waingroves and Codnor than Heanor, and the service would not meet its minimum 'response times' if it did 'run' to Waingroves and Codnor from Heanor, rather than Ripley.
- 21) These examples are merely illustrative of how strongly the organisation and delivery of county-wide services for Waingroves and Codnor are delivered from Ripley. It is RTCs view that to split the councillor functions with another separate geographical location would make the roles of both councillors and officers more complex, less convenient and less effective.
- 22) It is understood that having a higher than average number of electors within what would be a revised – but 'complete' – Ripley East and Codnor Division – could arguably lead to a greater workload for the elected County Councillors. This may be so, but it is RTCs view that splitting the Waingroves and Codnor communities, from each other and themselves, is guaranteed to lead to more work for two Councillors rather than just the one (under RTCs proposal).
- 23) In RTC's view, the LGBCE proposals would also make the electors' ability to access the 'right' councillor more complex, less convenient and less effective.
- 24) In summary of paragraphs 16 - 23 above, RTC strongly believes that its proposal – not to move any electors from Waingroves and Codnor into a Heanor electoral – will provide for more effective and convenient arrangements than the LGBCE proposals.

### **Conclusion**

- 25) RTC hopes to have demonstrated to the LGBCE that its proposal not to move any electors from Waingroves and Codnor into Heanor:
- delivers electoral equality for voters within the Ripley Town Council electoral Wards;
  - reflects the long history of the area and is in keeping with the local community interests and identities; and
  - promotes more effective and convenient local government than the LGBCE proposals.

Yours, sincerely,

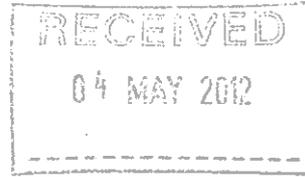


L McCormick  
Town Clerk

# Shirland and Higham Parish Council

Clerk: Mr. M. N. Johnson  
Telephone: [REDACTED]  
e-mail: [m.n.johnson@shirlandandhighamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:m.n.johnson@shirlandandhighamparishcouncil.co.uk)

Our Ref: [REDACTED] Your Ref: [REDACTED]



May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012.

The Review Officer (Derbyshire),  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England,  
Layden House,  
76 – 86 Turnmill Street,  
LONDON.  
EC1M 5LG

Dear Sir,

## **Derbyshire Electoral Review – 4.7.3 Clay Cross South & 4.7.8 Wingerworth and Shirland**

The Parish of Shirland and Higham has a population of approximately 5000, stretches from Oakerthorpe in the south to Mickley in the north and comprises four villages: Shirland, Higham, Stonebroom and Mickley. The 3,768 electors are currently represented by one County Councillor.

We have studied the proposals for changes to the existing divisions submitted to you by Derbyshire County Council and find them to be eccentric, vague, inaccurate, cavalier in their attitude to local sentiment, ignorant of the movements and affiliations of residents and, frankly, seemingly motivated purely by political ends. This Council is wholly opposed to the proposals.

We also note your comment relating to these proposals in “Wingerworth & Shirland” paragraph 151 where you say: “...with the exception of Wingerworth Parish, this division is based on whole parishes...”. That is clearly not the case. It is proposed that Stonebroom be separated from the rest of this Parish to form part of Clay Cross South whilst the remainder – although that is by no means clear – is linked to Wingerworth, a parish separated from Shirland by three other parishes – Stretton, Clay Cross and Tupton. To say that Shirland and Wingerworth are linked by the A61 is rather akin to saying that Leeds may be linked with London since the M1 goes to both. We are also unhappy that the number of electors in this botched up division would be 11.5% higher than the County average – a variance that you say is higher than you “would normally be inclined to adopt”. And your own figures in paragraph 153 suggest that it would be 15% higher.

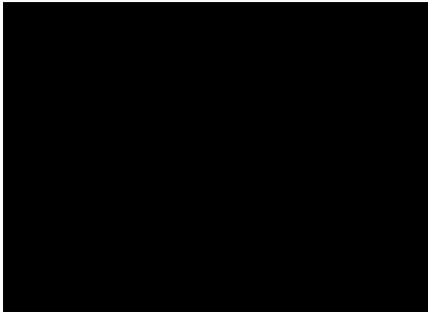
We would also draw your attention to the absence of any mention of Mickley in these proposals. Mickley is a village of 668 electors which, despite its position at the side of the A61, is very isolated and lacks all amenities other than a very small primary school and a small community hall. It is unclear whether Mickley would be linked with

Stonebroom or with Shirland and Higham. The suspicion is that for political reasons it will be linked with Stonebroom.

You comment in paragraph 150 that the “proposed division pattern in the south of the district would largely have good electoral equality.” We would suggest that the existing division already has that – witness the change of political representation at the last County election. What the County Council’s proposals do in the most cynical fashion is to attempt to remove that electoral equality. The four villages that make up this Parish are all different in character. Higham is an ancient settlement on the Roman road Rykneld Street. It is a Conservation Area consisting almost entirely of highly desirable and expensive properties. Shirland is a neighbouring middle class village straddling the A61 with just two small social housing estates. Stonebroom is a village dominated by a large social housing estate created to house miners at nearby collieries. Mickley is a forgotten village built by the then Rural District Council in 1956 and today suffering much deprivation. There is a complete cross section of society in this Parish – to split it as is proposed by linking the middle class section with another middle class parish several miles away with which we have no connection and nothing in common is simply to perpetuate social divisions to the detriment of all. And to link Stonebroom with Clay Cross is ironic given that only a couple of weeks ago Stagecoach announced that the bus service linking Stonebroom with Clay Cross is being withdrawn.

All in all, these proposals make no sense whatsoever. Their adoption would accentuate social divisions and ensure representation by a particular political colour in perpetuity, a situation which this Council – which is wholly apolitical – would abhor. We urge you to consider very carefully indeed these very flawed proposals.

Yours faithfully,



Niall Johnson

# Somercotes Parish Council

Gordon Blackmore  
Clerk to the Council  
Somercotes Parish Hall  
Nottingham Road  
Somercotes  
Alfreton  
Derbyshire  
DE55 4LY

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Website: [www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.somercotesparishcouncil.co.uk)

29<sup>th</sup> May, 2012

The Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Dear Sir/Madam,

## **Boundary Commission – County Council Electoral Divisions**

### **Derbyshire County Council – Somercotes Ward**

Somercotes Parish Council considered the options and recommendations made by the Boundary Commission and Derbyshire County Council.

#### **County Council Electoral Division**

**Status Quo:** Somercotes, Leabrooks, Pye Bridge, Riddings & Ironville

**Boundary Commission proposal:** 2 elected members for the area above plus Swanwick & Alfreton

**DCC proposal:** Somercotes (including Leabrooks) with Alfreton and Swanwick with Pye Bridge; Riddings & Ironville

The **Council RESOLVED** to agree that the options should be:

#### **Option 1: Preferred Option to keep the Status Quo:**

The current villages of Somercotes, Leabrooks, Pye Bridge, Riddings & Ironville have an affinity through historical association and local demography. Somercotes and Riddings have a particularly strong affinity and are well connected.

Pye Bridge would be left isolated if the small hamlet was moved from its current electoral connection with Somercotes. There is no direct traffic route to Riddings, Ironville, Alfreton or Swanwick without having to travel through Somercotes within where its Parish Council sits. Pye Bridge residents already complain about their isolation and this would be further exacerbated if the planned changes were approved. Residents of Pye Bridge make use of the Amber Valley Councillors and Derbyshire County Council Surgery held at Somercotes Parish Hall.

The Localism Act ethos is for town and parish councils to have a greater democratic autonomy at local level and any changes would remove this opportunity

#### **Option 2: Boundary Commission proposal:**

Two elected members for a larger area to include, Somercotes, Leabrooks, Pye Bridge, Riddings, Ironville, Swanwick and Alfreton,

Although the Parish Council considered this as an acceptable option there were serious concerns over representation for electors. If either option 2 or 3 were agreed then the democratic process could become inhibited, to the detriment of the smaller villages, if the two elected members were from the larger conurbations of Alfreton and/or Swanwick. Should the

two elected members be from, for example from Alfreton there could be political isolation and reduced democratic opportunity for the larger village area of such as Somercotes and particularly the smaller villages (Pye Bridge, Riddings & Ironville).

There is only one two member ward in Derbyshire, as we understand, at Glossop. It is felt that dividing a large conurbation is easier and politically more manageable than dealing with a geographical spread of a number of small villages that have no direct connections other historically or through local affinity. Furthermore, the Parish Council has no information on the 2 ward system operated in Glossop on which to consider its electoral impact on the wards so as to be able to make an informed decision.

On a two ward members system if both members are from different electoral parties this may have a greater impact on local democracy particularly for the smaller villages, as in Somercotes and its surrounding area.

**Derbyshire County Council Option – Not considered an acceptable option**

The Parish Council viewed the proposals from DCC in joining Somercotes with Alfreton and Swanwick with Pye Bridge, Riddings and Ironville as unacceptable and undemocratically representative of the local area.

Yours faithfully,

Gordon Blackmore  
MSc, BA (Hons), DipSolPolCrim (OU), CiLCA  
Clerk to the Parish Council

**Lawrence, Arion**

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**From:** Gregory, Eleanor  
**Sent:** 07 June 2012 14:09  
**To:** Lawrence, Arion  
**Subject:** FW: Bisection of Grassmoor ward

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**From:** Cait Stewart [mailto:clerk.templenormanton@hotmail.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 07 June 2012 13:56  
**To:** Reviews@  
**Subject:** Bisection of Grassmoor ward

I have been asked by the councillors of Temple Normanton with Corbriggs PC to advise you of their views on the proposal to divide the Grassmoor ward into half from its current state.

The councillors view is that this is a very poor idea, and completely unnecessary. It would create a great deal more admin and impose an other layer of paperwork processing. The ward functions very well in its current state and the councillors view is that this seems to be meddling for the sake of it. They oppose strongly the idea that the ward should be bisected.

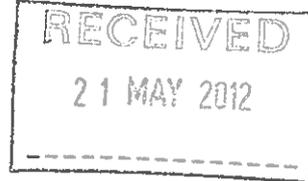
**Cait Stewart**  
**Parish Clerk/Financial Officer**  
**Temple Normanton with Corbriggs**  
**clerk.templenormanton@hotmail.co.uk**  
Miss C. Stewart, Parish Clerk, c/o PO Box 4266, Sheffield, UK, S44 9AP  
07964 717590



110 High Street, Tibshelf, Derbyshire, DE55 5NU Tel: 01773 875093



QC 05-08-00580



18<sup>th</sup> May 2012

Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Local Government Boundary Commission for England  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnmill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

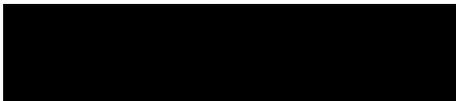
Dear Sir

**Electoral Review of Derbyshire: Draft Recommendations**

I write to advise you that your recent letter was discussed at this week's meeting of our Parish Council.

It was agreed that Council fully support the draft recommendations in your letter for the Electoral Review of Derbyshire. We have displayed your poster on the public notice board at our Village Hall.

Yours faithfully



Mrs H J Simpson  
Administration Officer

**Lawrence, Arion**

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**From:** Gregory, Eleanor  
**Sent:** 11 June 2012 14:03  
**To:** Lawrence, Arion  
**Subject:** FW: Derbyshire County Council Electoral Review  
**Importance:** High

---

**From:** Clerk [mailto:clerk@tuptonpc.org.uk]  
**Sent:** 08 June 2012 22:04  
**To:** Reviews@  
**Subject:** Derbyshire County Council Electoral Review  
**Importance:** High

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have been instructed by my Parish Council to write to you to convey their objection to the current proposals for the Derbyshire County Council Electoral Review particularly in relation to the proposals for North East Derbyshire.

The Council at its last meeting considered your proposals to link the Parish of Tupton with Clay Cross. It was considered that this was not appropriate as Clay Cross was a larger urban area consisting of small industry and larger shopping centres, which was very different to that of the Parish of Tupton which is considered to be a semi rural village. It is believed that this does not comply with the Boundary Commissions own criteria of ensuring common identity.

The Council considered that it would be more appropriate to link the Parish of Tupton with other neighbouring semi rural villages such as Grasmoor and Wingerworth, thereby retaining the common identity of the Parish as a semi rural village.

I trust that the Commission will consider these comments favorably and make the necessary adjustments to the draft proposals.

Kind regards,

**David Massey**  
**Clerk to the Council**

Tel/Fax: 01246 238738  
Website: [www.tuptonpc.org.uk](http://www.tuptonpc.org.uk)

**Tupton Parish Council - Improving the quality of life of all those who live and work in Tupton**

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19 JUN 2012

**SOUTH NORMANTON PARISH COUNCIL**

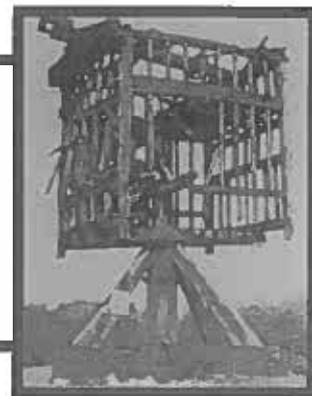
The Hub Joint Services Centre, Shiners Way, South Normanton, Derbyshire, DE55 2AA

Telephone 01773 814306

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Website: [www.southnormanton.com](http://www.southnormanton.com)

Office Hours: Week days 09.00 a.m. until 13.00 p.m.



Friday, 01 June 2012

Arion Lawrence  
Review Officer (Derbyshire)  
Layden House  
76-86 Turnhill Street  
London  
EC1M 5LG

Dear Mr Lawrence

**ELECTORAL REVIEW OF DERBYSHIRE: DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Thank you for your letter dated 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

South Normanton Parish Council fully support the Draft Recommendations adopted by the Local Government Boundary Commission for the County electoral divisions within Bolsover District.

Yours sincerely



Charles Hammersley  
Clerk to the Council