

Fuller, Heather

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 September 2014 09:46
To: Reviews@
Subject: Electoral Review of Warwickshire County
Attachments: WI Boundary Commission3 September 2014.doc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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For the attention of
Review Officer
Mr D Owen
Warwickshire Review
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Dear Mr Owen

I attach a letter from Whitnash WI as our response to the Electoral Review of Warwickshire County – Draft Recommendations in which we express our support for the response of Whitnash Town Council to this review.

As an organization which is part of our community we are deeply concerned about the way in which the ability of Whitnash to function as a viable community is being slowly eroded and appeal to you to prevent this continued injustice.

Yours sincerely
Anne Steele
(Secretary Whitnash WI)

[REDACTED]
e-mail: [REDACTED]

Review Officer - Mr D Owen
Warwickshire Review
The Local Government Boundary Commission for England
Layden House - 76-86 Turnmill Street
London EC1M 5LG

30th September 2014

Dear Mr Owen

The members of Whitnash WI totally support the views of Whitnash Town Council regarding the **Electoral Review of Warwickshire County Council – Draft Recommendations**

We agree with Whitnash Town Council's request that The Local Boundary Commission for England respects the integrity and name of our Town and the views of the respondents.

Whitnash is a community in its own right and should not be split by the changes in the Draft Recommendations of the Electoral Review of Warwickshire County Council or Warwick District Community Governance Review.

We also reject the suggestion that the area east of the railway should become part of Leamington Willes Ward as it is a historical part of Whitnash and Brook Valley Nature Reserve should be protected as it is part of Whitnash's heritage the whole area should be developed as a recreational facility benefiting our community. Our Neighbourhood Plan is being developed and includes proposals for this area to include woodland, nature trails, cycleways and footpaths an important facility encouraging a healthy community.

We agree with Whitnash Town Council's recommendation that the border in the west near Othello Avenue that is proposed in the Draft Recommendations, which is an illogical and irregular border, should be tidied up and simplified so that everything east of Othello Avenue is Whitnash Electoral Division. This is the same recommendation made by Whitnash Town Council when the Warwick District Council boundary review was undertaken previously. This same comment was made in Warwick District Council Community Governance Review in May 2014.

We agree with Whitnash Town Council's recommendation that all the land north of Harbury Lane and East of Tachbrook Road should become part of Whitnash Electoral Division as there are approximately 300 houses being built there and it is a natural boundary. These new residents will not be able to understand why they are represented by Bishops Tachbrook Parish Council which is a disconnected village some 1.5km away.

Our members are extremely concerned by the recent Community Governance Review undertaken by Warwick District Council which has seen Whitnash reduced in size and the area of east Whitnash completely removed. Our town has not only shrunk in size, but we have lost our history and heritage. East Whitnash including Brook Valley nature reserve and the Holy Well is included in Leamington Spa, which has no affinity with this area. Our designated Neighbourhood Plan area includes this area, but it is arbitrarily removed – why?

The members of Whitnash WI are extremely unhappy with the illogical decision to redefine Whitnash and remove its natural boundaries and heritage. How can the community plan for the development of a viable a happy future if we are constantly having our boundaries eroded to the benefit of neighbouring areas?

As an organization very much involved with the local community and concerned for the future Whitnash WI requests that the decision to redefine Whitnash and remove its natural boundaries and heritage be reversed. It would appear to us that there is a concerted effort to prevent our democratically elected Town Council from working to the benefit of our community.

Yours sincerely

Anne Steele
(Secretary Whitnash WI)