

Birmingham District

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Erdington Conservative Association – Consultation Submission

Introduction

This document forms the submission on behalf of the members and supporters of Erdington Conservative Association (ECA) in response to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's draft proposals.

The members, supporters and Councillors of the Erdington Conservative Association have decided to endorse the submission of the 'North Birmingham Communities Together' (NBCT). This decision was taken as the NBCT campaign has gained significant endorsement by local residents, businesses and cross-party support and the ECA believe the recommended changes to the draft proposals present local community identity, and also reflect the desire for electoral equality.

The NBCT proposals cover the existing wards of Oscott, Kingstanding, Erdington, Stockland Green and Tyburn.

We agree that these wards should re-drawn into the following, with the number of Councillors elected per ward in brackets:

Oscott (2)

Kingstanding (2)

Perry Common (1)

Stockland Green (1)

Gravelley Hill (2)

Erdington (2)

Pype Hayes (1)

Castle Vale (1)

We will now go through, in turn, the main areas of each ward.

Margaret Goby

Chairman, Erdington Conservative Association

Oscott



Oscott community, sometimes often also referred to as Great Barr, stretches on the north from Queslett Road to the south along Greenholm Road.

Oscott originates from the Old Oscott College

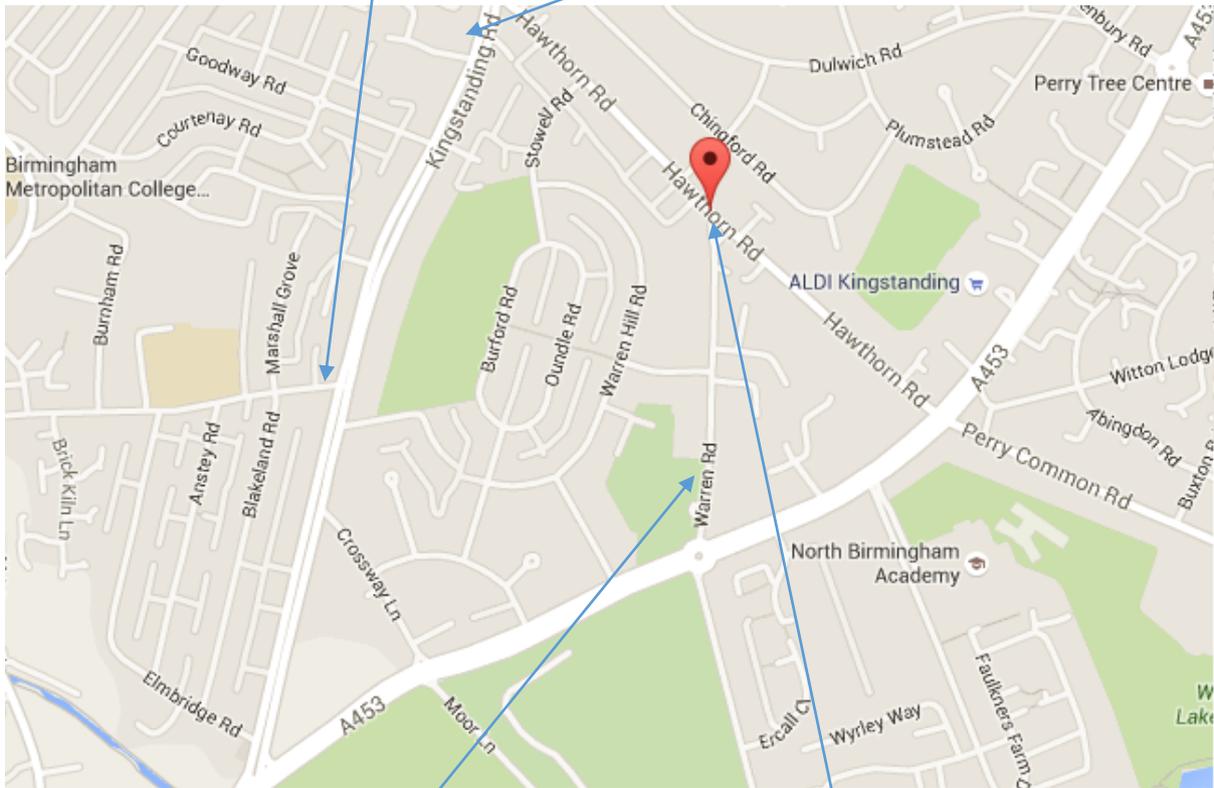
Bandywood area of Oscott has identified as 'Oscott' for as long as the Oscott ward has existed.

This proposed new Oscott ward both represents the community, without taking the northern bit out, and gives better electoral equality.

Kingstanding

Golden Hind Pub is a well known local pub, which is advertised as the Kingstanding branch of its chain.

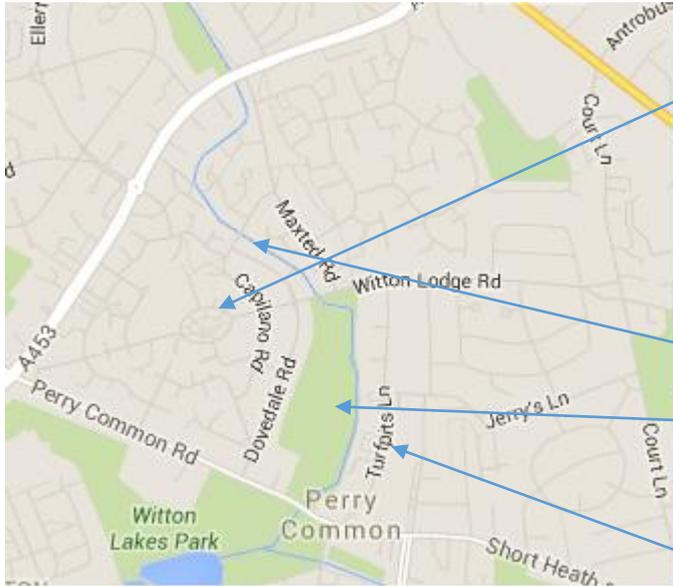
Kingstanding Sorting Office would be in Oscott, in the draft proposals, we support the recommendation for it to be in Kingstanding



The draft proposals include splitting Warren Road, a residential road. This does not seem sensible, or help with community identity. The NBCT proposals keep this all in Kingstanding.

Hawthorn Road is Kingstanding's main shopping area for local residents. Having the whole of this road in one ward is sensible, and reflects community links.

Perry Common

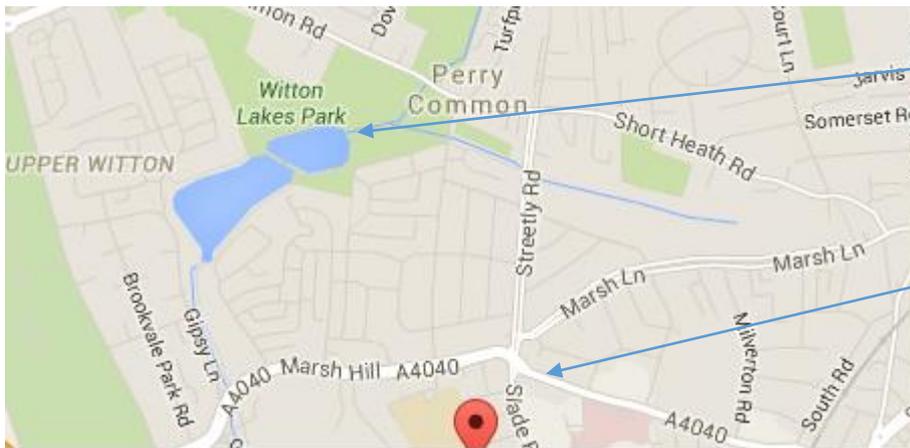


Perry Common is served by 'The Ring' as its main shopping area, and the base of the Witton Lodge Community Association, a resident led organisation which is a local landlord.

Perry Common Recreation ground is the areas local park and stream which runs through the estate.

Turfpits Lane runs along the side of the brook and is affected by the recreation ground, creating an important link.

Stockland Green



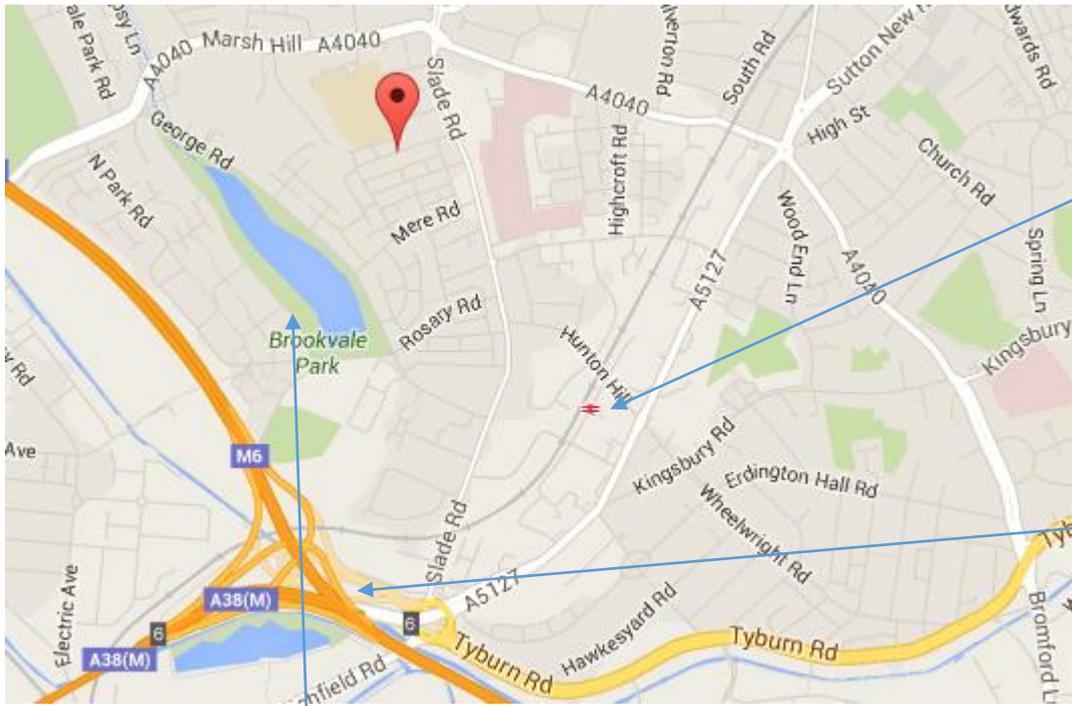
Stockland Green is a community built up around Witton Lakes

It has a distinguishable border with Gravelley Hill along the A4040

All of the Stockland Green Parish area are contained within this proposed new ward

The Short Heath shopping area is not within the proposed Short Heath ward, and is based around the original centre of Stockland Green within this new proposed ward.

Gravelley Hill



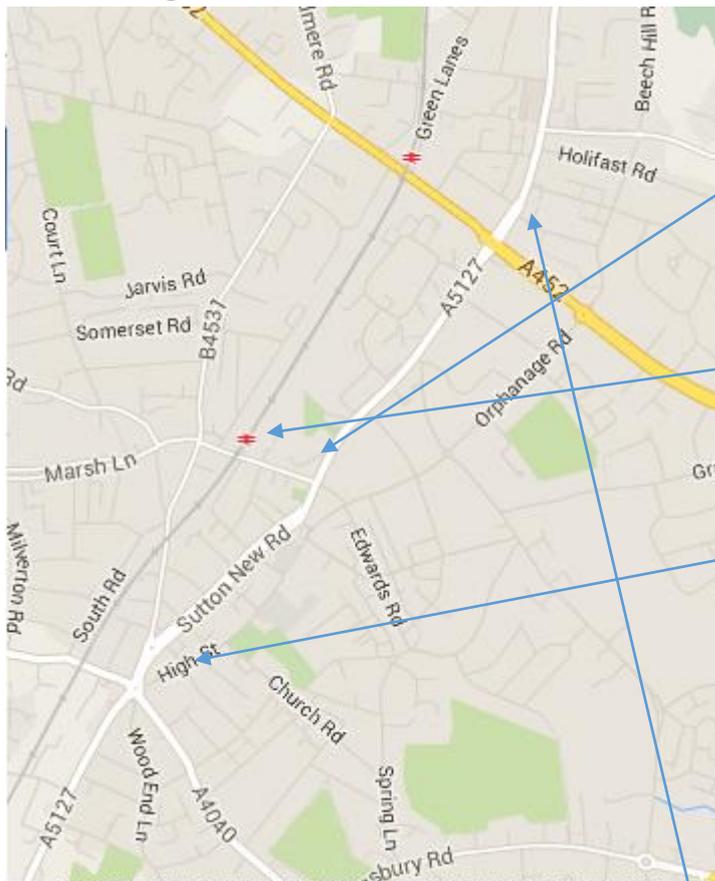
Gravelley Hill is served by its own train station, which is an important link to the City Centre

Gravelley Hill borders the M6 which runs along the southern end of the community.

Brookvale Park is a well-used local asset which hosts several community events throughout the year.

Gravelley Hill was a Victorian housing expansion scheme surrounding the train station.

Erdington



Erdington is one of the oldest communities in Birmingham and has many historic features such as the Abbey.

Erdington is served by a busy train station

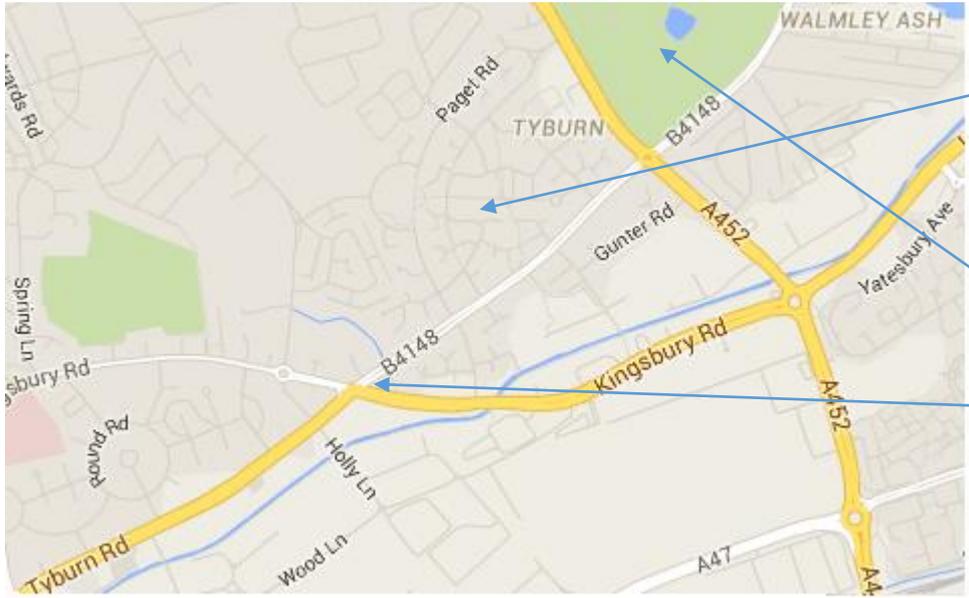
Erdington High Street is a thriving high street based at the heart of Erdington

Near to the train station are the historic Erdington cottages dating back to the 17th century. These are part of a collection of listed buildings which flow from Orchard Road, past the Abbey through to Gravelley Lane, providing a historic context for the Erdington community.

The commission's proposals would split the listed Erdington buildings between Stockland Green and Short Heath.

The only publically shown 'Erdington Coat of Arms' would be removed from Erdington ward according to the commission's proposals. The NBCT make sure it maintains its link with Erdington.

Pype Hayes

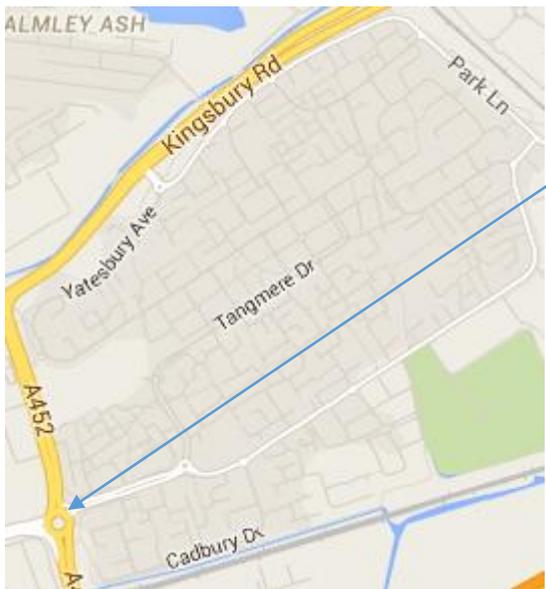


Pype Hayes has been going through a period of regeneration where large parts of the estate have been rebuilt.

Pype Hayes park serves the community as a local asset.

The Norton shopping centre acts as the local retail area for convenience stores

Castle Vale



Spitfire Island is at the focal point of the Castle Vale entrance.

Castle Vale has many spit fire cones to visualise the link between the estate and the JLR factory site