



WHITNASH TOWN COUNCIL



Town Clerk
Mrs J A Mason
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19th June 2014

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

Dear Mr Owen

Electoral Review of Warwickshire County Council

Whitnash Town Council would like to make the following comments regarding the Electoral Review of Warwickshire County Council.

Name of the Division

The name of the division should remain as Whitnash as this clearly identifies the division. No other names are suitable or acceptable.

Whitnash has its own distinct identity from the surrounding areas and our Members do not want this to be changed.

Boundaries of the Whitnash Division

The boundary of the Whitnash Division should remain largely as it is today, including East Whitnash - the area east of the railway to the Whitnash Brook Valley.

East Whitnash is a historic part of the town and was populated as far back as the Ancient Britons; its earliest origins can be traced back to pre-Roman occupation. By the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086, the area of Whitnash was part of the 'Stoneleigh Hundreds' area, and was referred to as Witenas. It remained a small village for many centuries, not even being connected to local towns by anything more than country lanes until around 1850.

We do not wish to lose responsibility for the Whitnash Brook, the Brook Valley, the Holy Well, and Mill Dam fields, all of which are part of our heritage.

In addition, and to provide coterminosity with Warwick District Council's proposed boundary changes for the Parish / Town wards, we strongly believe that it makes sense for the area of land called 'Woodside Farm' to be included

in Whitnash. This area of land adjoins Whitnash and is entirely separate from its existing Division of Bishop's Tachbrook. The Woodside Farm land is the land east of the junction of Tachbrook Road and north of Harbury Lane. This land has recently been granted planning permission for approximately 300 houses.

Adding this area will bring Whitnash closer to the 2020 target electorate of 7780.

In addition maintaining the Division as described above will:

- Preserve the interest and identity of the town of Whitnash.
- Ensure that residents of Whitnash clearly understand who represents them. They will be in Whitnash for Town Council, District Council and County Council representation.
- Ensure the individuality and identity of Whitnash is maintained.

As a result of boundary reviews of the past, Whitnash has already been reduced in size. Further attempts to chip away at Whitnash will threaten its viability.

Whitnash Town Council is aware of an alternative proposal "Warwick Labour and Liberal Democrat Joint Proposal" to terminate the southern boundary of the town's Division at the Golf Course. This proposal is illogical as it divides Whitnash in two. If you take into account the granted application for 111 houses on Fieldgate Lane, which would mean that people who clearly live in Whitnash are represented by a Cubbington councillor.

Background

Whitnash has its own Town Council, Community Forum, three schools, three churches, surgeries, sports clubs, three shopping areas and various local organisations based in the town, including Women's Institute, Whitnash Twinning Association and Whitnash Society in addition to cubs, scouts, brownies and guides, plus various other groups.

Whitnash Town Council would suggest that the current Whitnash Boundary remains as is to preserve the identity and heritage of the Town.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Mason
TOWN CLERK