

## CONSERVATIVE RESPONSE TO DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS OF FEBRUARY 2014

This is the Conservative Councillors' Group response to the Boundaries Commission's draft proposals for the number, names and boundaries of the wards in Erewash Borough Council.

### **Long Eaton.**

We accept and support the draft recommendations as follows:

Paragraph 40 Sawley as printed

Paragraph 41 Wilsthorpe. We recognise the benefits of the use of the Canal as a strong boundary instead of Tamworth Road and therefore support the small addition of those properties between Tamworth Road and the canal into Wilsthorpe from Long Eaton Central. We therefore support the draft recommendations as printed.

Paragraph 42 Long Eaton Central as printed noting the amendment above.

Paragraph 43 we support the recommendations on boundaries along the centre of College Street and also the small amendment involving Elm Avenue and the roads to its east.

Paragraph 44 is discussed in paragraph 82.

Paragraph 45 we accept the suggested ward names as printed.

### **Ilkeston**

We accept and support all the draft recommendations as follows:

Paragraph 53/54 Larklands as printed, we see the benefit of using Chalons Way and Station Road as strong boundaries

Paragraph 55/56 Little Hallam as printed

Paragraph 57 Shipley View. We support the proposals to improve electoral equality by placing the area around Wardlow Road and Broadway in Shipley View.

Paragraph 58 Hallam Fields. We support the proposals as printed

Paragraph 59 Awsworth Road. We support the improvements to electoral equality.

We accept the proposed name although we feel that your comments failed to appreciate that a railway station is being built this summer and will be open in December this year.

Paragraph 60 as printed

### **North Rural**

We accept and support the draft recommendations for the two wards of Little Eaton and Stanley, and West Hallam and Dale Abbey for the reasons stated in our original submissions and also the letter from Councillor Broughton. We would stress that the two villages of Stanley and Stanley Common are separate entities with the more rural Stanley looking towards Morley and other rural Parishes. The ribbon development of Stanley Common is built along Belper Road which is a continuation of High Lane West the main road through the more urban West Hallam.

We understand that there is a proforma letter being circulated in Stanley which states that Stanley village is being merged with Little Eaton, this is of course nonsense as your draft recommendations refer solely to Borough Ward boundaries and do not

affect the Parish Council boundaries. We remain strongly in favour of your proposals as we support the numerical necessity and also the community interests referred to in our first paragraph above.

However, we do not support the draft recommendations for a Kirk Hallam and Stanton-by-Dale ward. We feel the two areas have been put together purely for electoral equality reasons and not enough account has been taken of the identities and interests of these two distinct areas. The housing estate of Kirk Hallam has in our view very little in common with the rural (Parished) village of Stanton by Dale. We are aware of a great deal of public disquiet about these recommendations from the residents of Stanton by Dale and we support those concerns. The two places have very distinct community identities.

We appreciate that putting Stanton by Dale with Kirk Hallam will help to keep that proposed new ward within normal tolerances, however our calculations also show that adding Stanton by Dale to the new Draycott & Risley ward would still leave that ward within the normal 10% tolerance. The impact on Kirk Hallam would produce a greater than normal variance but we feel the community interests justify this proposal. We suggest that the names of the wards should therefore revert to Kirk Hallam, and Draycott and Stanton By Dale which are the existing names and are recognised by the public at large.

### **South Rural**

We accept and support the draft recommendations stated in paragraph 79 for Ockbrook & Borrowash and Breaston wards as printed. Both wards have strong community identities with active Parish Councils and clear boundaries. They are numerically very close to the preferred target average.

Paragraph 80 we prefer Stanton By Dale to stay with Draycott as above.

Paragraph 81 We recognise the benefits gained by using the strong M1 boundary, however the residents of that area regard themselves as living in Sandiacre and have been part of Sandiacre Parish for many years, long before the M1 was built. The recommendation for that area being warded with just one Parish Councillor goes against the multi-Member warding system which is supported elsewhere in the recommendations.

Paragraph 82 If the draft recommendations for Sandiacre are accepted then we would support the movement of the Springfield Avenue area into Derby Road West solely on electoral equality grounds. However we feel there is a strong sense of community identity in all of the village of Sandiacre and for that reason would recommend that both Springfield Park and the area west of the M1 should remain in Sandiacre wards. We do not support a one-Member Parish ward for Springfield Park because of the lack of cover when that single member is away on holiday or indisposed. We are aware that Sandiacre Parish Council will be making a submission regarding the proposed changes to warding arrangements for Sandiacre.

Paragraph 83 We support the proposal to move the few houses on Lock Lane into a Sandiacre Ward.

Councillor Chris Corbett  
Chairman  
Erewash Conservative Councillors Group