

Harrogate District

Personal Details:

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Organisation Name: Scriven Parish Council

Comment text:

FROM SCRIVEN PARISH COUNCIL [REDACTED] Scriven Parish Council would like to express their objection to the proposed new warding pattern suggested by Harrogate Borough Council. Currently Scriven is within a Knaresborough Ward but in order to balance the number of voters within each ward, Harrogate Borough Council is proposing that Scriven should become part of the adjoining rural Claro Ward. Scriven is located on the north side of Knaresborough and although historically it would have been a totally separate village this has not been the case for many years. The growth of Knaresborough in the earlier part of the 20th century has resulted in the two communities being joined. Roads that are on the boundary of Scriven parish have houses on one side in Scriven parish and on the other side in Knaresborough. It would not be appropriate to divide houses on the same road into separate wards when one of them is rural and the other urban. Although Scriven has its own parish council it does not have any of the usual facilities of a separate community, having no community hall, no church, no school, no health or social service provision, no shop or public house. It is a mainly residential parish and has minimal rural activities taking place within the community. The population of Scriven closely associate themselves with Knaresborough, and rely on Knaresborough for all local services and facilities. Scriven has no allegiance or relationship with neighbouring rural communities and it is a concern that a move to a rural ward would adversely affect the services provided for the residents of Scriven. It is important that Scriven residents are within a ward with a Harrogate Borough Councillor who represents their interests. This would be achieved more readily by remaining within a Knaresborough Ward. Scriven is a community immediately adjoining the urban area of Knaresborough and a rural councillor would inevitably be representing the views of rural communities. The Parish Council understand that the reason to consider a move to a neighbouring rural ward is to achieve equality in the number of voters in each ward. Scriven has 212 voters and if it were to be part of the proposed Tentergate Ward in Knaresborough this would result in a ward with 3650 voters. This is 2.9% greater than the accepted 10% above the Harrogate ward average number of voters of only 3223. However, it is strongly felt that purely considering numbers to balance ward sizes is not a sufficient reason to move Scriven to a ward with which it has no connections.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded