

King's Lynn and West Norfolk District

Personal Details:

Name: David Pope

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Organisation Name:

Comment text:

With regard to the proposed boundary changes, I would like to recommend that the Upwell with Delph Ward, with 2 members, stays exactly the same as at present. It is a large Ward which with my fellow Councillor, Vivienne Spikings has been served well. We work in tandem, cover 5 parish council meetings and serve the electorate well. We are both very active and I cannot see how this Ward could be served any better. The only problem is that the Ward is about 50 electorate short of what is being required, giving the size and complexity of the Ward I think this should be allowed. This suggestion easily passes the other two criteria, and with the proposed growth, which is now taking place, in Upwell, I am confident that the shortfall will soon be made up. If it is proposed to make Upwell a single member Ward there appears to be a number of problems. Assuming it is Upwell Parish as the Ward, it leaves Welney in isolation. It is far to remote from the next parish, necessitating a 7 mile journey by road to meet its adjoining neighbouring parish council. Further Parishes are much further afield. Welney is a natural fit for the Upwell ward, as it adjoins the village of Lakesend, so therefore I would like to see it included in the Upwell Ward, the only problem is that the numbers are a bit high. But in the forward forecast, Welney, Lakesend and Three Holes are not going to grow so therefore there could be a further alignment in the future. Welney is a small contained village which is surrounded by Cambridgeshire on the West and South, along the Eastern border is the Ouse Washes, the only way out is along its Northern border with the Upwell Ward. Although on the first criteria 'electoral equality' we appear to fail on numbers, I feel that we can give the local Welney resident far better representation than if it was to go down the alternative road. The second criteria 'reflect the interests and identities of local communities'. I feel we pass this test with flying colours because there is so much integration between our local communities. Until a few years ago Welney pupils always attended Upwell Secondary Modern School until it closed. Friendships were formed and are still going strong today. The Junior children from Welney, now attend the Upwell Academy, this is due to their school being closed. about three years ago. There are strong business links between the two areas, mainly agriculture, haulage, food processing and light engineering. The A1101 road passes through all four villages, this is a natural link or join-up. So any highway matters we may speak as one. The Upwell Health Centre serves the village, and about eight years ago both my fellow councillor and I secured enough funding from the Borough Council to build a much needed car park, due to the rapid growth of the Practice. Welney contributes to the annual maintenance charge, along with other villages. In recent years my fellow councillor and I have been involved in helping residents to develop a Wildlife Park for plants and insects, also we have helped on local housing issues. The above also covers the third criteria 'electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government' I would contend that the geographical position of Welney makes it virtually impossible for it to get a high level of convenient local representation other from Upwell. I know that in criteria one we have slightly stretched the limit, but I think there is a very good case to be made that this small village should not have to live in isolation. I beg you to take my submission very seriously and I support either of the two options.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded