

Harrietsham Parish Council

Chairman: Cllr Eddie Powell
Clerk: Mrs Amanda Broadhurst

Tel: [REDACTED]
E-mail: harrietshampc@aol.com

[REDACTED]
Harrietsham
Maidstone
Kent
[REDACTED]

28th September 2022

**Re: Agenda Item 15 - Local Government Boundary Review - Second Stage Consultation response
Full Council Meeting - 28th September 2022**

Harrietsham Parish Council is extremely dismayed to see the latest proposal suggested by Maidstone Borough Council which would remove part of Harrietsham from the current Ward.

Removing Pilgrims Retreat and other properties along Hogbarn Lane makes no sense at all, especially as these residents will still be using all the village facilities on a daily basis. It is inconceivable that Maidstone Borough Council could willingly progress with isolating residents of the village from their neighbours into a completely different Ward.

There has been no discussion with Harrietsham Parish Council and the Borough Councillors who have put forward, and support, this suggestion have no connection to Harrietsham whatsoever. Residents of Pilgrims Retreat will not even be aware of this proposal and how it will disconnect them from the village of Harrietsham.

The Parish Council wholeheartedly supports the views of Lenham Parish Council regarding the possibility of Lenham North being split. There is great affinity to Harrietsham & Lenham through services both villages provide and residents naturally connect to both village's shops, pubs and social entertainment. The current boundary is both a natural and historic line which should not be changed.

We are extremely concerned that, if this proposal is approved, it could have a serious implication during the Parish boundary review, due to take place in 2023. We would request that this latest proposal be thrown out, especially as the Boundary Commission has previously supported the boundary proposals submitted by Harrietsham Parish Council.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
Mrs A Broadhurst
Clerk to Harrietsham Parish Council