

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 06 September 2021 01:53  
**To:** reviews  
**Subject:** WOLVERHAMPTON WARD BOUNDARIES - PENN.  
  
**Categories:** Submissions, Matt

Dear Sirs,

I wish to strongly object to the proposals relating to the boundary of PENN Ward in Wolverhampton.

My late submission is a reflection of the pathetic consultation that has taken place to date on this vital matter. Only two days ago did I learn that the Wolverhampton Council has already submitted recommendations to you.. I would have thought that our own council should have actively and comprehensively consulted with us before sending their ideas to your organisation ?

Whatever, I find the proposal to change the Penn boundary from what it is, a clear line of separation shown on every map, to a vague line along the back gardens, is nonsensical.

Further:

- 1: Penn Ward is very similar, geographically and demographically, to nearby wards of Tettenhall, Regis, Wightwick and Merryhill yet these are to remain unchanged.
- 2: Clear boundaries are always desirable yet the proposals take away what currently is a very distinct identification of Coalway Road as an obvious Ward boundary.
- 3: The changes will alter the community identity of Penn, by removing from the ward the only and very notable Catholic St. Michael's Church.
- 4: Forecasts for the next 5 years show that elector numbers in Penn will still be well within the 10% range of average electors in all Wolverhampton wards.
- 5: Penn has a unique 'character' that includes some interesting shops and residences of a similar nature (often built early in the 20<sup>th</sup>. Century by the same developer) different to the 'character' of the opposite side of the road. The adjacent ward of Graiseley has its' own special but vry different character of shops, buildings and electorate.
- 6: WE live in Coalway Road, and Coalway Road is part of the history of PENN. It features in many publications on PENN and has always been recognised as the northern boundary of PENN.
- 7: My wife and I settled in PENN over 50 years ago. We did not settle in Graiseley and we reject, as do all other residents on the Penn side of Coalway Road, any suggestion that we should be part of Graiseley. Throughout our lifetime we have contributed to the community of Penn and we feel a great affinity for the Ward.
- 8: I have been active in local politics for many years and I have canvassed extensively in many of the Wolverhampton Wards. The mindset of Penn residents are very different to that of Graiseley residents, ditto for other wards in Wolverhampton.
- 10: If this change is implemented we will continue to fight it and, until our last breaths, will identify ourselves as Penn residents.

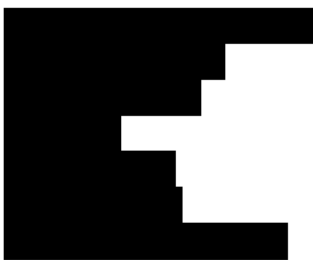
In summary, the present boundary makes very much sense, the proposal removes that sense. There can be no acceptable rationale for changing the present boundary other than the wrong reasons (and I suspect they are political reasons).

The decision should respect the residents' views and I am now convinced we have been sidelined to avoid argument at the early stages.

Many Penn residents are elderly and have no recourse to technology and communications. At 76 years old I am more familiar with these than most peers, and I am more in touch with community developments than most, yet I nearly did not learn of what was happening and sending in the email protest was neither easy to compile nor straightforward to locate a destination.

I will be making my feelings known to the local councillors, our local MP and the Wolverhampton Council. If the decision as per your proposal stands then you should expect a local Action Group to rapidly develop and legal action to ensue. The present circumstances are OK, why try to fix them otherwise and upset many and please nobody in the process ?

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

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