

## Wychavon District Council

### Personal Details:

**Name:** Jane Greenway  
**E-mail:** njkparishclerk@aol.com  
**Postcode:** [REDACTED]  
**Organisation Name:** Norton juxta Kempsey Parish Council

### Comment text:

It is noted that the aim of the Local Government Boundary Commission Review of Wychavon District is to ensure that no ward will be more than 10% away from the average number of electors per ward, and that each District Councillor will represent an average of 2,372 electors. It is further noted that the recommendation for Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish is that it be paired with Stoulton Parish, thereby ceasing the long-term relationship it has had with Whittington Parish, which is now to be paired with Upton Snodsbury Parish. While achieving the correct number of electors and representation per ward is entirely laudable, the Local Government Boundary Commission is also required to consider transport links, community groups, facilities (shops, medical services, and leisure facilities), common interests and identifiable boundaries, few of which seem to have been considered in this instance. Both Norton-juxta-Kempsey and Whittington parishes sit on the southern/south-eastern edge of Worcester with the M5 motorway running through them. They are both influenced by the new Worcestershire Parkway Railway Station, located within Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish, but with a need to travel via Whittington Parish to get to it from Worcester. They both have large developments planned near them, Norton-juxta-Kempsey the Southwest Urban Extension (SWUE) of the South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP), and Whittington the new Garden Town envisaged as part of the SWDP(Review). Perhaps most importantly, despite already gravitating towards Worcester to provide services not available within the parish due to geographical location, both are semi-rural and fervently wish to retain that identity within Wychavon District, despite the effect the proposed urban extensions will have upon them. The parishes have a lot in common, and face similar challenges, both now and in the future. Alternatively, Stoulton and Upton Snodsbury parishes are much more rural, and though not unaffected by the new Garden Town development, they are likely to remain that way. Both look towards Pershore for the provision of services not available within their parishes, and neither are directly affected by the M5 motorway or the new Worcestershire Parkway. Though it may not satisfy the elector and Councillor requirement, based on commonality between parishes, it would make far more sense to retain the Norton-juxta-Kempsey and Whittington pairing, allowing Stoulton to pair with Upton Snodsbury, thereby creating an 'inner southeast ring' to Worcester, that looks towards Worcester, and an 'outer southeast ring' that looks towards Pershore. In summary, Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish considers that the current planned pairing with Stoulton parish is ill-conceived, and though it may satisfy the elector and Councillor requirement, it falls short of addressing the Community Identity aspects. Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish would wish to remain paired with Whittington Parish for all the reasons stated.

### Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded