

Northumberland County Council

Personal Details:

Name:

E-mail:

Postcode:

Organisation Name: Choppington Parish Council

Comment text:

Choppington Parish Council would like to submit proposals for the divisions within its own Parish boundaries of Stakeford, Choppington and Sleekburn (part of). Each division has one representative. The Council recognises the reason for reorganisation and our proposals conform to the 3 statutory criteria: 1. Electoral equality 2. Community identities and interest 3. Effective and convenient local government Choppington Parish Council boundaries Choppington Parish Council is bounded to the West beyond Paddock Hall; to the North by the River Wansbeck, to the South and East by railway lines. The communities of West Choppington, Guide , Stakeford West Sleekburn, Bomarsund, and Choppington Willows are co-terminus and contain the majority of electors . The Parish includes the electoral Divisions of Stakeford and Choppington together with 200 houses which are part of the Sleekburn division (West Sleekburn and the Willows). West Sleekburn village sits between 2 boundary railway crossings. The Parish and Sleekburn boundaries overlap between these 2 railway crossings Choppington Willows, located within the SE of the Choppington Parish boundaries is closely associated with Bomarsund. The current Sleekburn/Stakeford boundary division ignores the natural boundary of the railway line by including the Choppington Willows into the Sleekburn division. Proposals to divisions within the Choppington Parish Council 1 The Willows and West Sleekburn village to move into the Stakeford division. It is anomalous that West Sleekburn and Choppington Willows are not part of the natural community of Stakeford. The transfer will raise draft electors to meet the 10% criteria. Rationale The village of West Sleekburn is an old established community. It shares the name Sleekburn, but it is distanced from the main settlements within the Sleekburn division (East Sleekburn being 2.9km distant from West Sleekburn and the Parish boundary). The Willows is perched on the edge of an industrial estate. Residents are confused by the boundary as their near neighbours are in Stakeford. The Electoral Review of Northumberland provides the ideal opportunity to correct these anomalies. 2 Choppington division to remain unchanged. Note amendment to the shared boundary between Stakeford division and the Choppington division could be used to balance the number of electors in each division if required. The Parish Council's proposals recognise that the electoral divisions of Bedlington West, Bedlington Central, Bedlington East, and Sleekburn are closely associated with each other and provide an extended community from the North Sea coast to the West of Bedlington. Summary • Division of Choppington to remain unchanged • To include the Willows and West Sleekburn into the Stakeford division • These proposals give a simple realignment of the Stakeford and Sleekburn divisional boundary, which fully conforms with statutory criteria.

Uploaded Documents:

None Uploaded