

# CHALFONT St. PETER PARISH COUNCIL

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## **Boundary Commission consultation submission**

Chalfont St Peter is a large ancient Domesday Book village.

The current four ward structure puts Gold Hill in a Chalfont St Giles ward, notwithstanding that there is clear Green Belt between the two villages. This is unworkable and confuses our residents who do not identify with Chalfont St Giles.

Gold Hill common is a central and integral part of Chalfont St Peter. It is the main open space at the top of the village shopping area and is widely used for exercise and village events such as our historic annual Feast Day.

All current four wards identify with the village shops, schools, doctors, leisure centre.

The Parish Council say that this should be recognised in any changes with one 3 member ward.

This is our one opportunity to correct an anomaly which splits our village. We understand that the submission from Buckinghamshire Council will create an additional split by cutting the Austenwood Ward into two, part of which will be in Gerrards Cross. This will have a huge impact on the identity of our historical village which years ago took in the Gerrards Cross area before the building of the railway.

Taking the electoral numbers from the Buckinghamshire submission we understand that our numbers are: Gold Hill 1761; Central 4748; Common 3758; Austenwood 1975, which total 12,242.

To meet the suggested requirement of 4,500 electors per member we propose that the Austenwood boundary be extended to include roads currently split by the boundary with Gerrards Cross, viz: Orchehill Avenue, Latchmoor Avenue, Latchmoor Way, Oval Way, North Park.

The suggested ward boundaries of Buckinghamshire Council do not fulfil the three criteria laid down by the Boundary Commission viz:

- 1) Electoral equality
- 2) Interests and identities of local communities
- 3) Effective and convenient Local Government

The residents of all four wards identify that they live in Chalfont St Peter.

The current structure is confusing, and the Parish Council's proposal would support keeping our village community together using identifiable boundaries.

4<sup>th</sup> April 2022



## Chalfont St. Peter CP



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